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ABSTRACT

This multi-curriculum study unit focuses on holidays, anniversaries, and special days. In addition to a calendar of monthly events, worksheets with games, puzzles and activities for lessons are included. The worksheets can be duplicated for students, placed in learning center folders, or used as examples for developing new worksheets. Some of the special days covered are the New Year, birthdays of presidents and other notable persons, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Halloween, election day, and Christmas. Among the subjects covered are mathematics, spelling, reading, writing, art, seasons of the year, and vocabulary building. A bibliography of children's books and resources for teachers completes this guide. (EM)

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Celebrate Learning

Holidays In The Classroom
K-6

Oklahoma
State Department of Education

1981

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foreword

Celebrate Learning is a multi-curriculum study unit which focuses on holidays, anniversaries, and special days. The Oklahoma State Department of Education feels that the information and student worksheets contained in this unit will be helpful in providing educational enrichment for many students.

We gratefully acknowledge and thank all of those that have assisted in the development of this unit.

Sincerely,

Leslie Fisher
State Superintendent of
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acknowledgements

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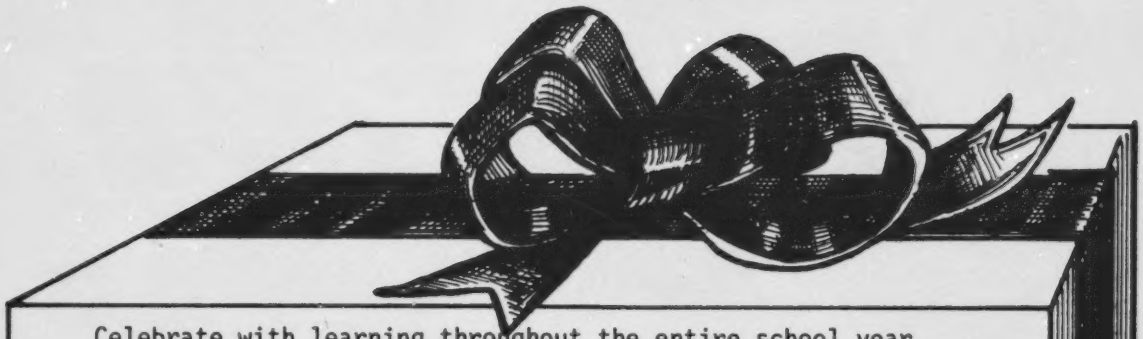
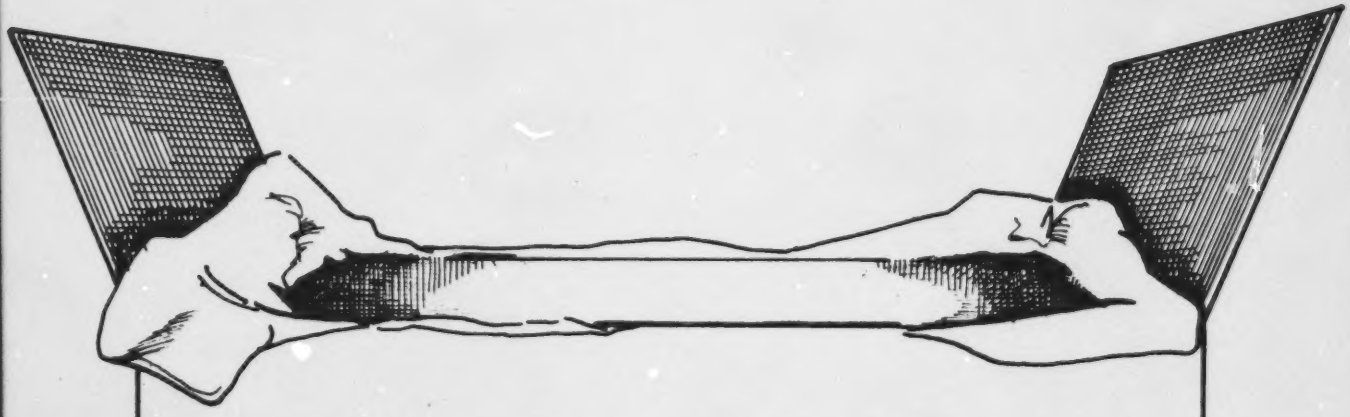
study-unit introduction



Celebrate with learning throughout the entire school year. Holidays and special anniversary days are fun for students of all ages. One way to make learning fun is to combine the learning of a content area curriculum with the happy times of a special day. Include holiday learning in daily lessons and learning-center activities. Celebrate Holiday Learning. It is fun!!!



Use this multi-curriculum based study unit as a beginning. Duplicate the pages for the students or place them in learning-center folders; then, devise your own holiday learning activities.

JANUARY

1 New Year's Day

4 Louis Braille's birthday (1809-1852) France

5 George Washington Carver Day (1864-1943)

12 Charles Perrault's birthday (1628-1703) France
(author of Tales of Mother Goose)

14 Albert Schweitzer's birthday (1875-1965) won Nobel Peace Prize, 1952

15 Martin Luther King's birthday (1929-1968) won Nobel Peace Prize, 1964

17 Benjamin Franklin's birthday (1706-1790) (also given as 1-15-1706)

18 A. A. Milne's birthday (1882-1956)
(wrote Winnie the Pooh and The House at Pooh Corner)

19 Edgar Allan Poe's birthday (1809-1849)

23 National Handwriting Day (John Hancock, 1737-1793)

27 Lewis Carroll's birthday (1832-1898)
(wrote Jabberwocky and Alice in Wonderland)

30 William R. Pogue's birthday (1930-) spent 2,017 hours in space on Skylab 4 (from Okemah, Oklahoma)

FEBRUARY

1 National Freedom Day

2 Groundhog Day

4 Charles Lindbergh's birthday (1902-1974)
(flew nonstop across the Atlantic Ocean in 1927)

8 Boy Scout Day - 1910

9 U. S. Weather Service established

11 Thomas Edison's birthday (1874-1931)
(National Inventor's Day)

12 Abraham Lincoln's birthday (1809-1865)
First puppet show presented in the U. S. in New York, 1738

13 America's first public school opened in Boston, 1635

14 Valentine's Day

15 Susan B. Anthony Day (1820-1906)

29 Leap Year Day

Vietnamese New Year	First day of first month of lunar year (usually February)
Mardi Gras	Day before Lent begins
Washington's birthday	Celebrated on the 3rd Monday
Chinese New Year	First day of the First Moon (usually early in February) lasts 15 days

MARCH

3 Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922)

6 L. Gordon Cooper's birthday (1927-) Shawnee, Oklahoma
(first person to make two orbital space flights)

8 International Women's Day

10 Marriet Tubman Day (1830-1913)

Right to vote given to 18-year olds, 1971

12 Girl Scout Day

13 Uncle Sam Day - named after Sam Wilson (1766- ?) who packed and inspected food boxes for U. S. troops (War of 1812)

16 First liquid-fuel rocket fired by Robert Goddard, 1926

17 St. Patrick's Day

21 First Day of Spring

23 Fannie Farmer's birthday (1857-1915)
(wrote 1st cookbook using exact standard measures)

28 Spring Cleaning Day

Easter first Sunday following first full moon after March 21

APRIL

1 April Fool's Day

2 International Children's Book Day
Hans Christian Andersen's birthday (1805-1875) Denmark

3 Rip Van Winkle Day
Washington Irving's birthday (1738-1859)

6 Houdini's birthday (1874-1926) (also given as 3-24-1874)

9 First free Public Library in U. S.

13 Thomas Jefferson's birthday (1743-1826)

18 Paul Revere's midnight ride, 1775, from Boston to Lexington

21 Fort Gibson, Oklahoma founded

22 First Oklahoma Land Run, 1889

26 John James Audobon's birthday (1785-1851)

27 Samuel F. B. Morse's birthday (1791-1872) Morse Code

MAY

1 May Day

8 International Red Cross Day

9 Sir James M. Barrie's birthday (1860-1937)
Peter Pan Day

15 L. Frank Baum's birthday (1856-1919)
(wrote The Wonderful Wizard of Oz)
Over the Rainbow Day

18 School attendandance in U. S. made compulsory, 1852

Mother's Day 2nd Sunday

Memorial Day Last Monday

11

JUNE

2 Martha Washington's birthday (1732- ?)

11 Oklahoma City chosen as State Capitol, 1910

14 Flag Day

19 First formal baseball game - Hoboken, New Jersey, 1846

21 First Day of Summer

27 Helen Keller's birthday (1880-1968)

Father's Day 3rd Sunday

12

JULY

4 Independence Day

5 Silhouette Celebration - Etienne de Silhouette born, 1709

6 Beatrix Potter's birthday (1866-1943)
(wrote Tale of Peter Rabbit)

17 Civil War Battle of Honey Springs, 1863

20 Moon Day - U. S. Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, Jr. walked on the moon, 1969

23 Ice cream cone invented, 1904

AUGUST

9 Jesse Owens' Olympic victory - 1936

17 First successful crossing of the Atlantic Ocean in a balloon
(Ben Abruzzo, Maxie Anderson, and Larry Newman)

Gold discovered in the Klondike, 1896

28 Green I. Currin, Oklahoma's first Black legislator took office

30 Frankenstein Night

Mary Shelley (1797-1851)
(wrote Frankenstein)

Friendship Day 1st Sunday

14

SEPTEMBER

1 Oklahoma's first school, called Union Mission, started near Maizie

14 Calendar Day - Gregorian Calendar adopted, 1752

Francis Scott Key wrote the Star-Spangled Banner, 1814

17 Thomas P. Stafford's birthday (1930-) Weatherford, Oklahoma
(performed first rendezvous of two-man space craft)

19 Mickey Mouse's birthday - 1928

23 First day of Fall

26 Johnny Appleseed's birthday

John Chapman (1774-1845)

Grandparent's Day	Sunday after Labor Day
Native American Day	4th Friday
Labor Day	1st Monday

OCTOBER

8 Great Chicago Fire, 1871

12 Columbus Day - 1492

15 National Poetry Day
Roman Poet Virgil born 70 B.C.

16 Noah Webster's birthday (1758-1843)
(put together first American dictionary of the English language)

20 Clown-around day - Barnum Circus (now Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus) opened 1873

24 Stock Market crashed, 1929

25 Pablo Picasso's birthday (1881-1973)
(invented collage art form with a friend)

27 Teddy Roosevelt's birthday (1858-1919)

28 St. Louis Police Department became first to fingerprint all persons arrested on serious charges, 1904

31 Halloween

NOVEMBER

4 Will Rogers' birthday (1879-1935) date of death, August 15

9 Remember Smokey Day - found in New Mexico, 1950; died 11-9-76

11 Veteran's Day

14 Around the World Celebration
(Nelly Bly began trip around the world - lasted 72 days, 6 hours, 10 minutes, 11 seconds)

16 Oklahoma became a state, 1907

18 U. S. adopted Standard Time, 1883

22 Owen K. Garriott's birthday (1930-) Enid, Oklahoma
(orbited the earth in the Skylab 3 mission)

23 Boris Karloff's birthday (1887-)

24 Pinocchio Day
Carlo Collodi's birthday (1826- ?)

28 First skywriting in America, 1922

29 Louisa May Alcott's birthday (1832-1888)

30 Mark Twain's birthday (1835-1910)

Thanksgiving	4th Thursday
General Election Day	1st Tuesday after 1st Monday of even-numbered year

DECEMBER

5	Walt Disney's birthday (1901-1966)
7	Pearl Harbor Day, 1941
15	Bill of Rights Day, 1791
16	Boston Tea Party, 1773
17	First successful air flight, Wright Brothers, 1903
18	13th Amendment abolished slavery, 1865
22	First Day of Winter
24	Christmas Eve
25	Christmas
31	New Year's Eve

student activities

SHAPING THE NEW YEAR

Decorate the party hat.

Color the circle inside the triangle blue.

Color the square inside the circle green.

Color the triangle below the diamond yellow.

Color the diamond above the triangle purple.

Color the diamond between the circles pink.

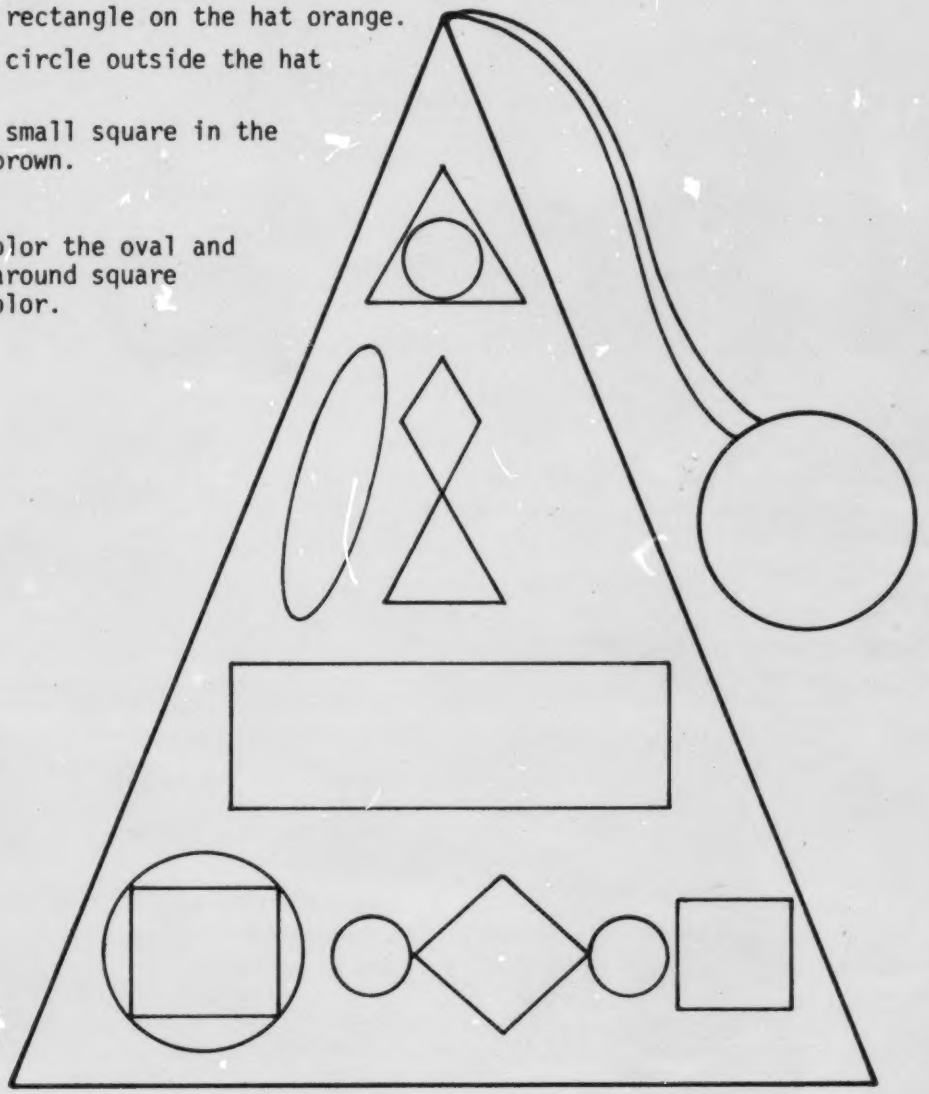
Color the two small circles black.

Color the rectangle on the hat orange.

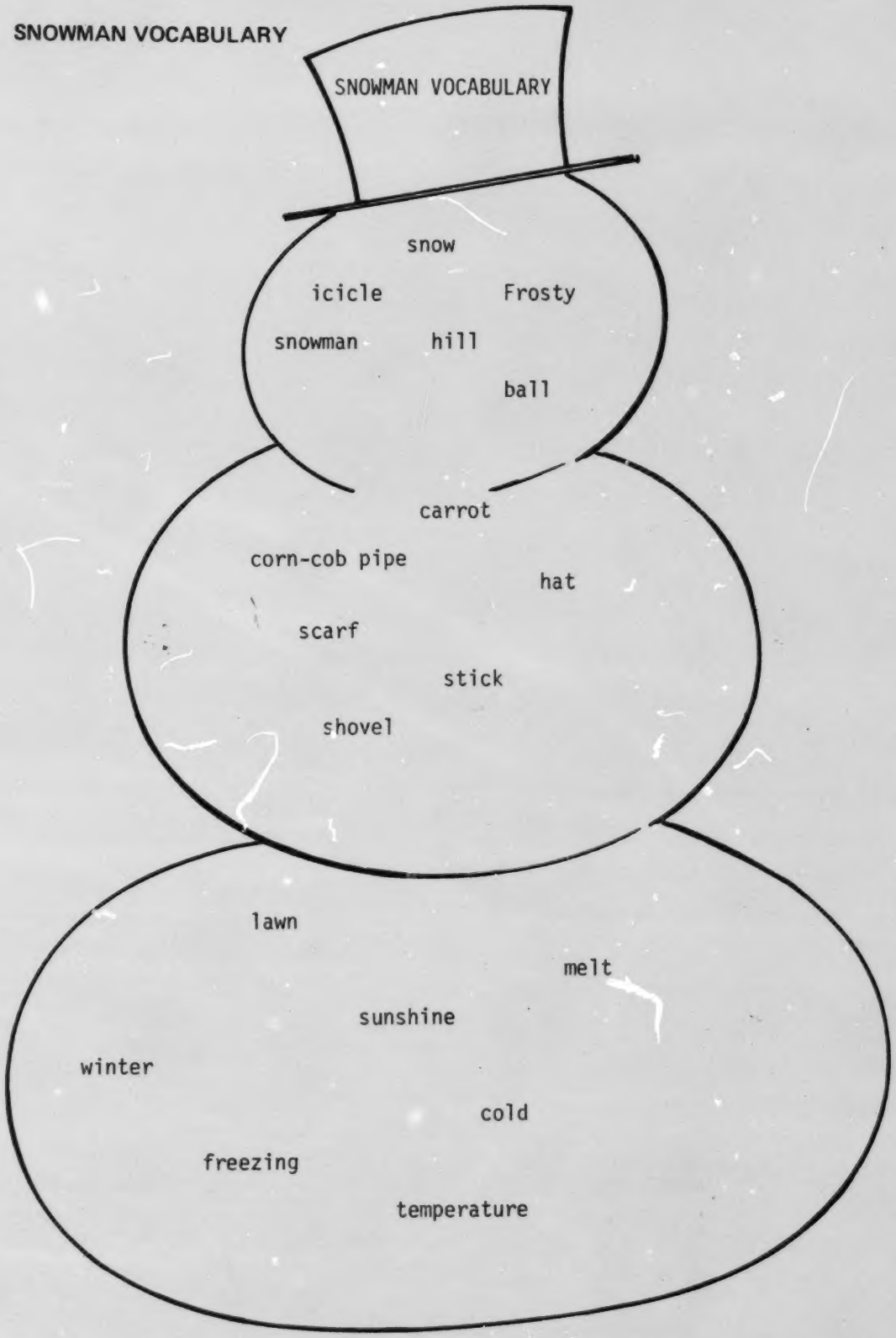
Color the circle outside the hat red.

Color the small square in the corner brown.

BONUS: Color the oval and circle around square any color.



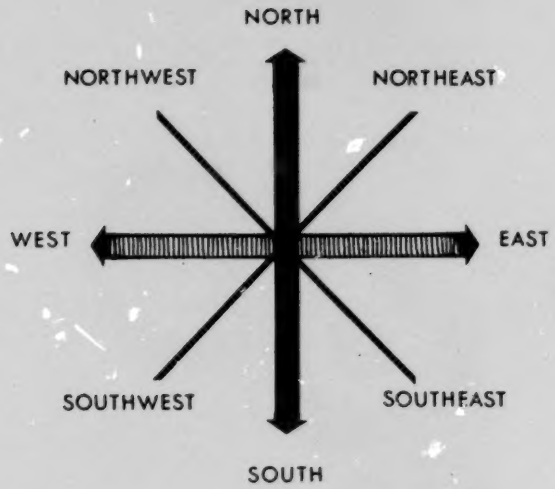
SNOWMAN VOCABULARY

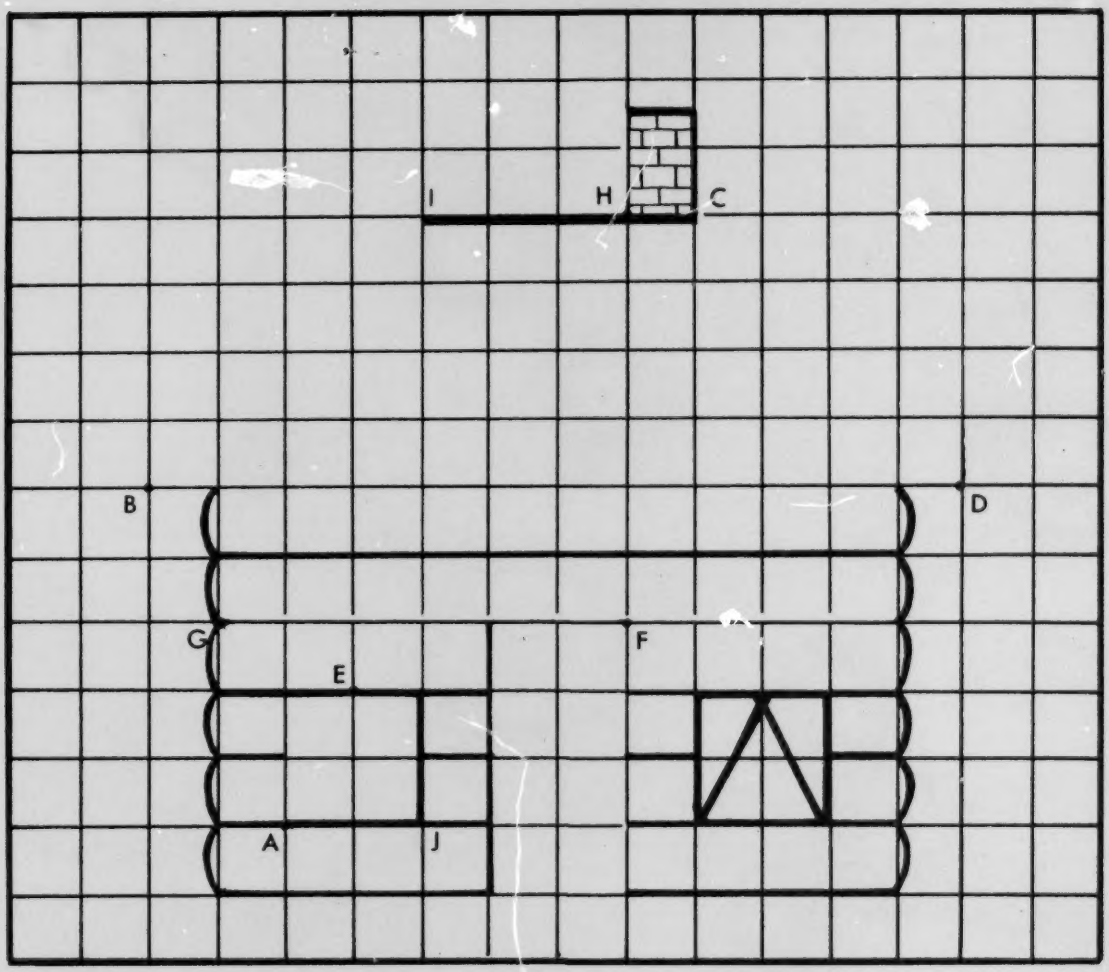


LINCOLN'S LOG CABIN

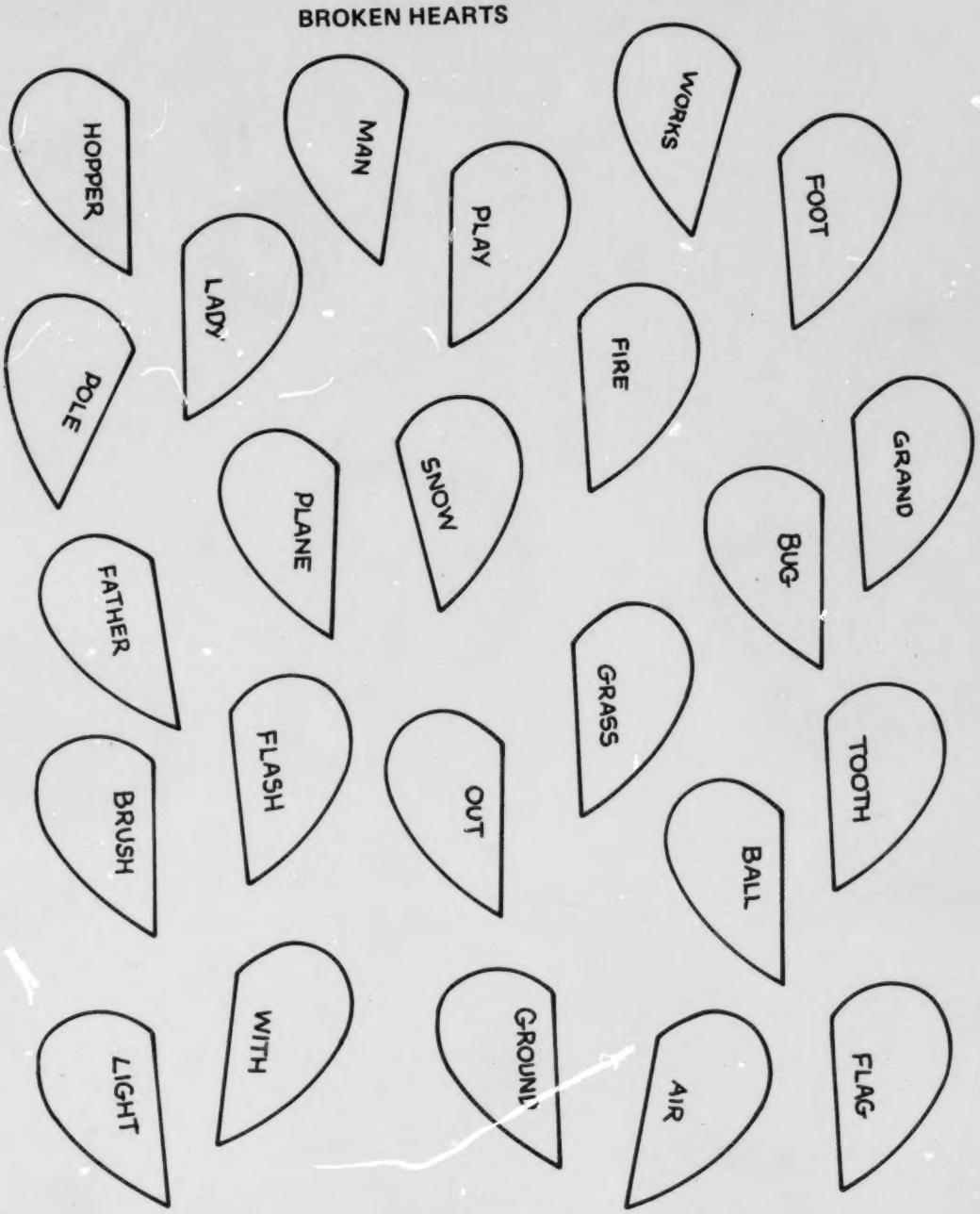
Use a metric rule to measure. Follow directions.

1. Start at A and draw a line 2 centimeters north.
2. Start at B and draw a line 1 centimeter east.
3. Start at B and draw a line northeast to point I.
4. Start at C and draw a line southeast to point D.
5. Start at D and draw a line 12 centimeters west.
6. Start at E and draw a line southwest to point A.
7. Start at E and draw a line southeast to point J.
8. Start at F and draw a line 5 centimeters south.
9. Start at G and draw a line 11 centimeters east.
10. Start at H and draw a line 1½ centimeters north.


NORTH
NORTHWEST
NORTHEAST
WEST
EAST
SOUTHWEST
SOUTHEAST
SOUTH


I
H
C
B
D
G
F
E
A
J

BROKEN HEARTS



Mend these broken hearts by matching the halves to make compound words. Glue the halves on a big red construction paper heart.

TENDER HEARTS

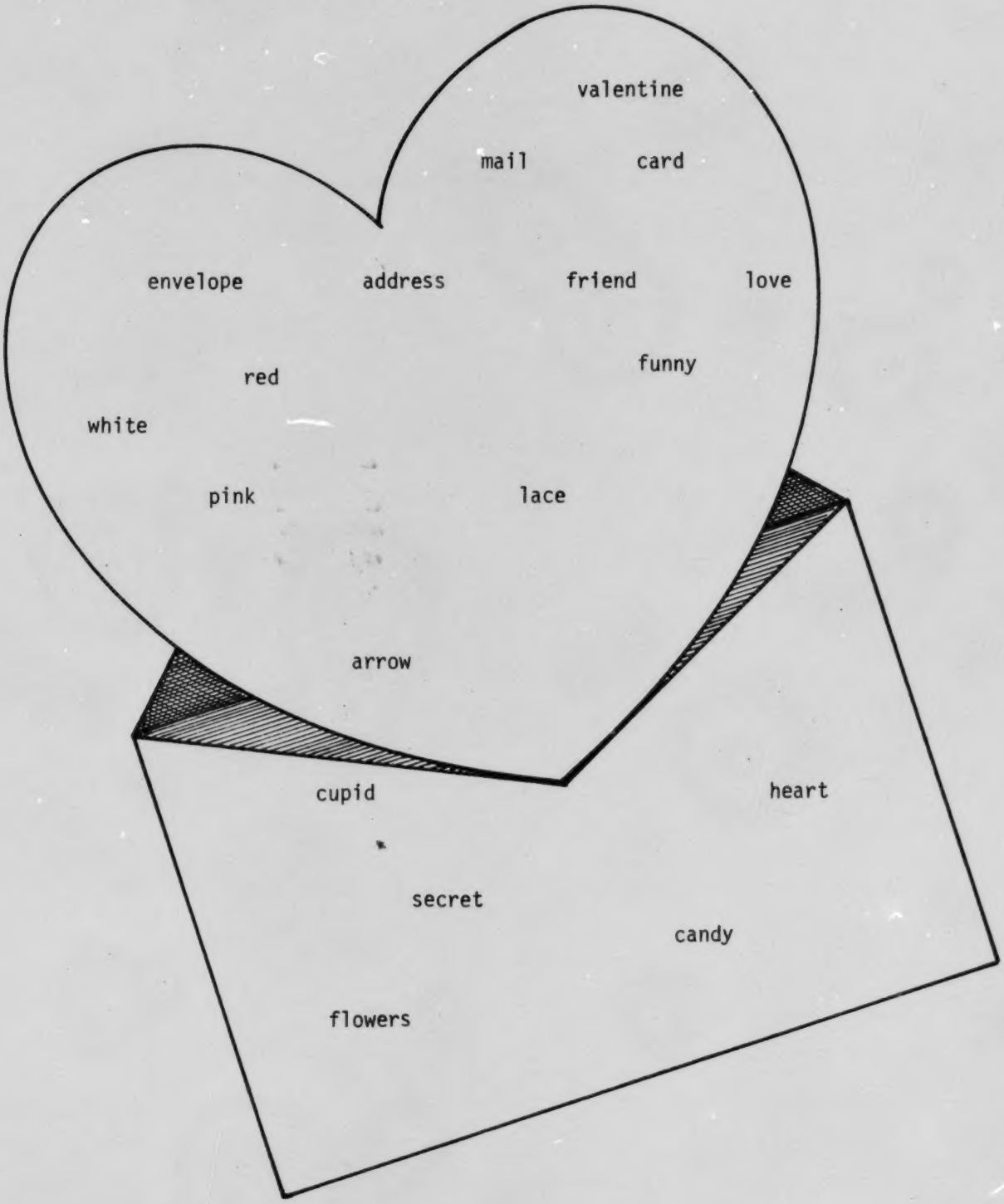
Cut out an acetate heart this size.

If the acetate heart can cover numerals that total 10, trace around the heart.

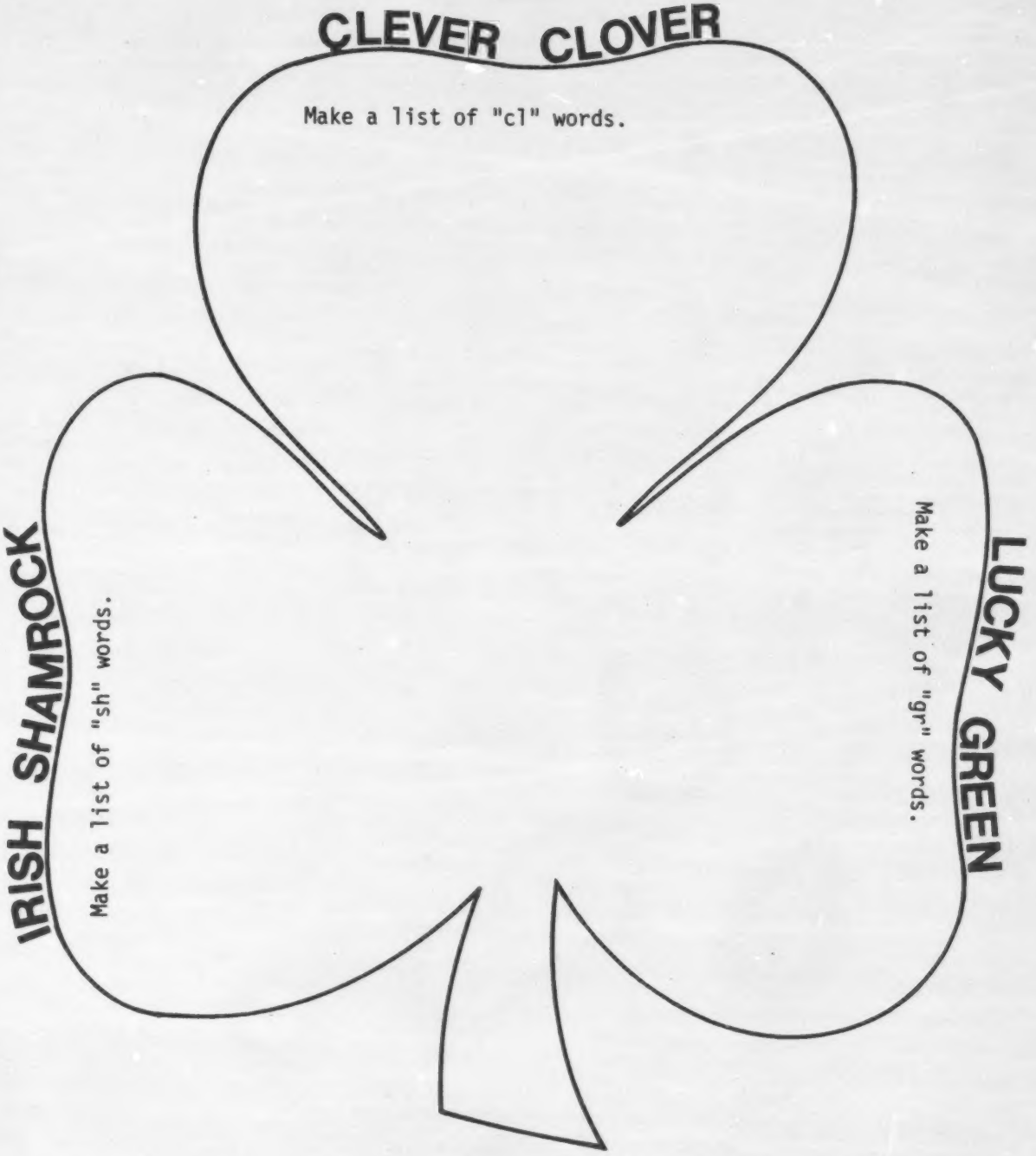
5 6 9 5
3 1 5
7 2 4
2 4
2 8 7
4 7 5 10 8 3
3 5 0 4 8 5
6 2 3 8 2 5 6
4
5 6 3 4
2

5 6 9 5
3 1 5
7 2 4
2 4
2 8 7
4 7 5 10 8 3
3 5 0 4 8 5

HEARTS AND WORDS

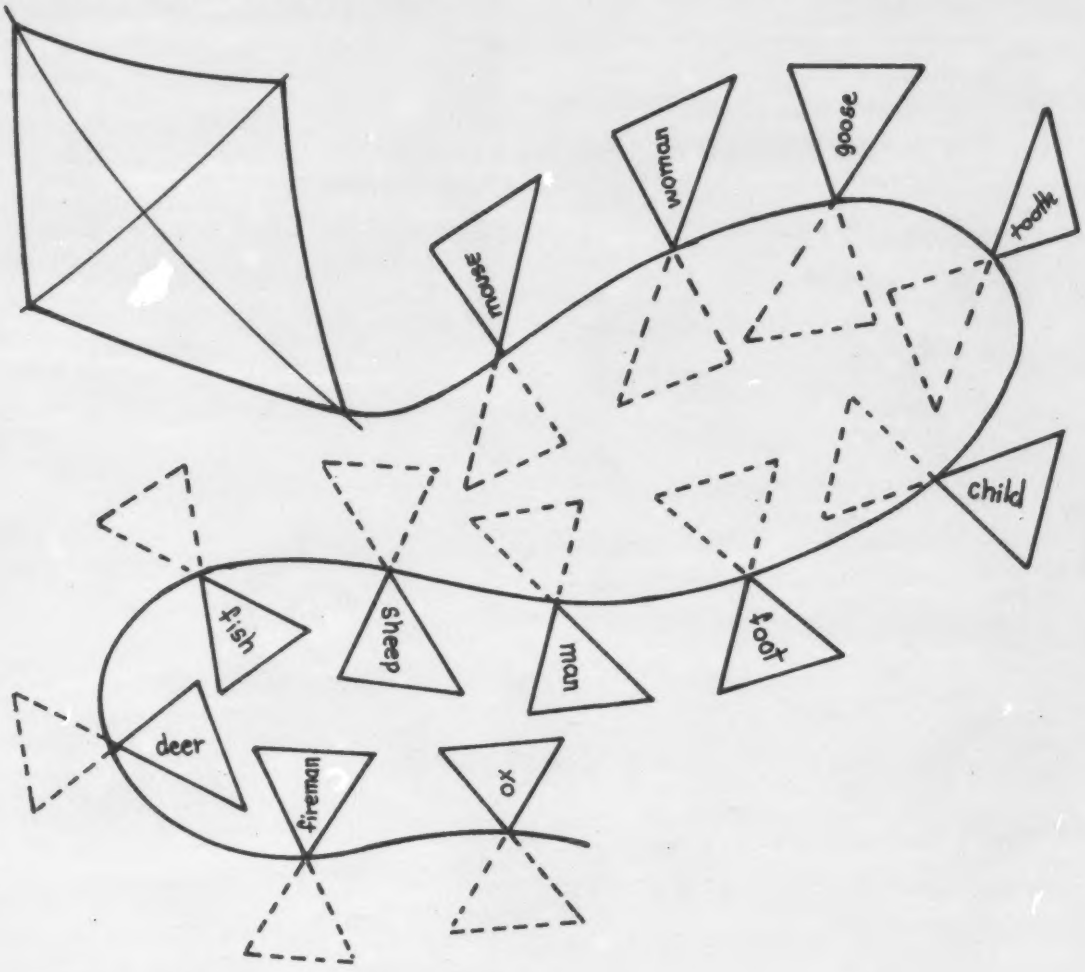


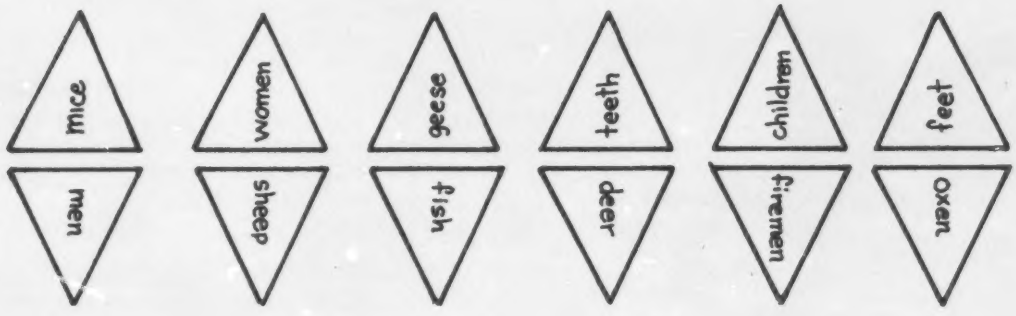
LUCKY WORDS


CLEVER CLOVER
Make a list of "cl" words.
IRISH SHAMROCK
Make a list of "sh" words.
LUCKY GREEN
Make a list of "gr" words.

HIGH-FLYING PLURALS

Read the singular word on each kite bow. Read the plural word on each low-half below. Cut out the plurals and paste them next to the correct singular word.





ST. PATRICK'S DAY SCRAMBLE

Cut out the words for each sentence. Scramble the words. Put the words in the correct order. Write the sentence. Study the parts of speech.

1. Saint | Patrick's | Day | is | named | after | the | patron | saint | of | Ireland.

2. He | died | on | March | 17, | 1500 | years | ago.

3. There | are | many | legends | about | the | kindly | bishop | and | what | he | did | for | Ireland.

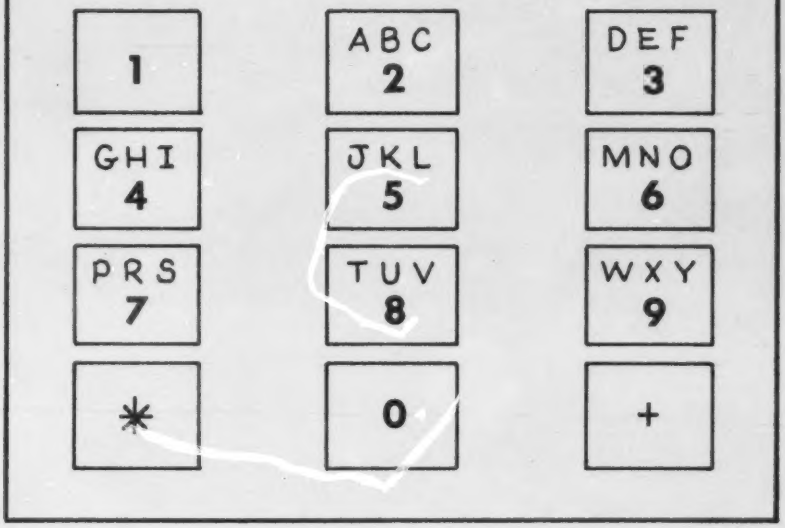
4. St. | Patrick | did | something | special | for | learning.

5. The | bishop | taught | people | to | read | and | write.

6. It | is | an | old | custom | to | wear | a | green | shamrock | or | a | bit | of | green | on | Saint | Patrick's | Day.

7. The | shamrock | is | the | national | flower | of | Ireland.

PUSH BUTTON TELEPHONE MATH



Find the sum of the letters in each word below. (e.g. by = 11)

is = _____ can = _____

on = _____ box = _____

are = _____ was = _____

Find the sum of the letters in each word below. (e.g. house = 28)

teacher = _____ number = _____

sandwich = _____ bell = _____

day = _____ recess = _____

clover = _____ phone = _____

lunch = _____ March = _____

WORDS FOR LIONS AND LAMBS

shillelagh

shamrock

lucky

green

clover

leaf

Irish

elf

St. Patrick

pot of gold

rainbow

leprechaun

March

spring

lion

lamb

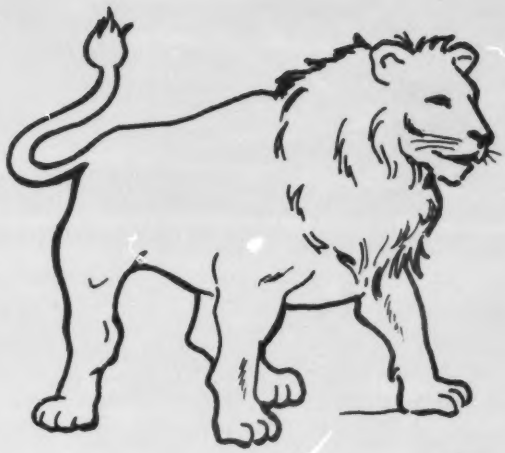
windy

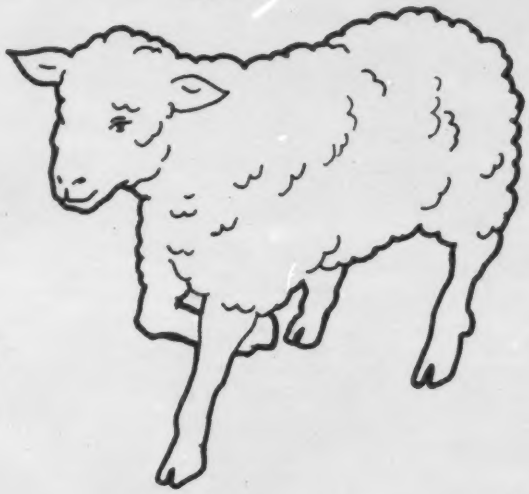
kite

children

sunshine

rainy

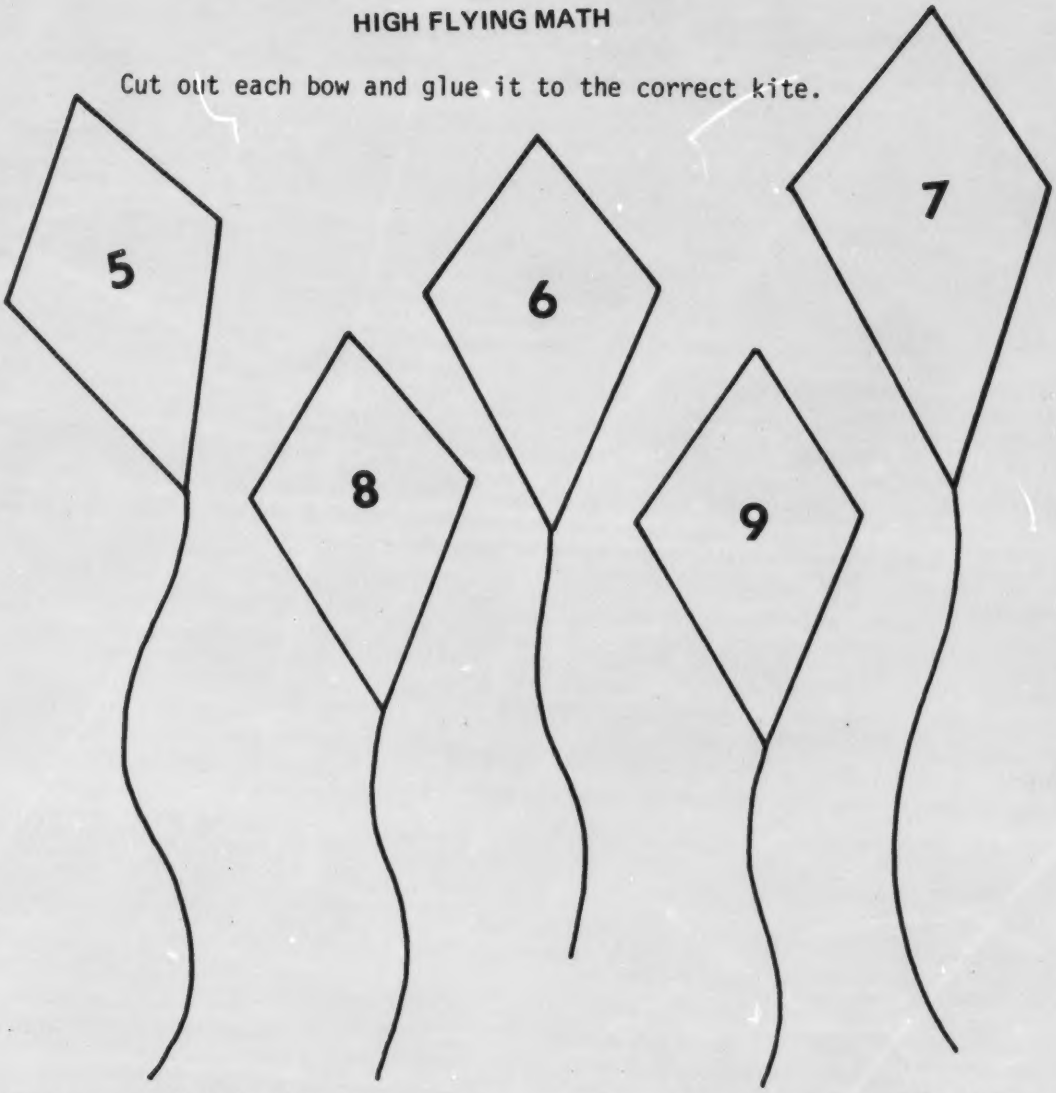




Write a story using some of the words from the vocabulary list.

HIGH FLYING MATH

Cut out each bow and glue it to the correct kite.



2 + 3	4 + 2	5 + 4	5 + 2
4 + 4	3 + 3	4 + 3	7 + 1
9 − 2	9 − 4	8 − 2	6 + 3

APRIL FOOL'S JOKE

Don't be fooled by this joke. It's written using the pronunciation of the words given in the dictionary. Write it spelling the words correctly.

Hwots long, grēn, and krēp'ē with siks legs and big tēth?

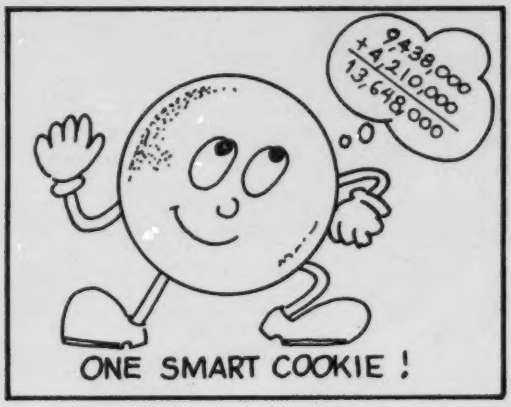
Ī dōnt nō. Hwot?

Ī dōnt nō ē'th r but its kroling up yoor leg.

Write another message about a holiday you enjoy. Use the pronunciation given in your dictionary. (Webester's New World Dictionary of the American Language used for the jokes on this page.)

FOOLISH METAPHORS

Sometimes we are fooled by metaphors and what they mean. Draw a picture to show exactly what the metaphor says. The first one is done for you.



HE'S ALL THUMBS!

BLIND AS A BAT.

BUSY AS A BEE!

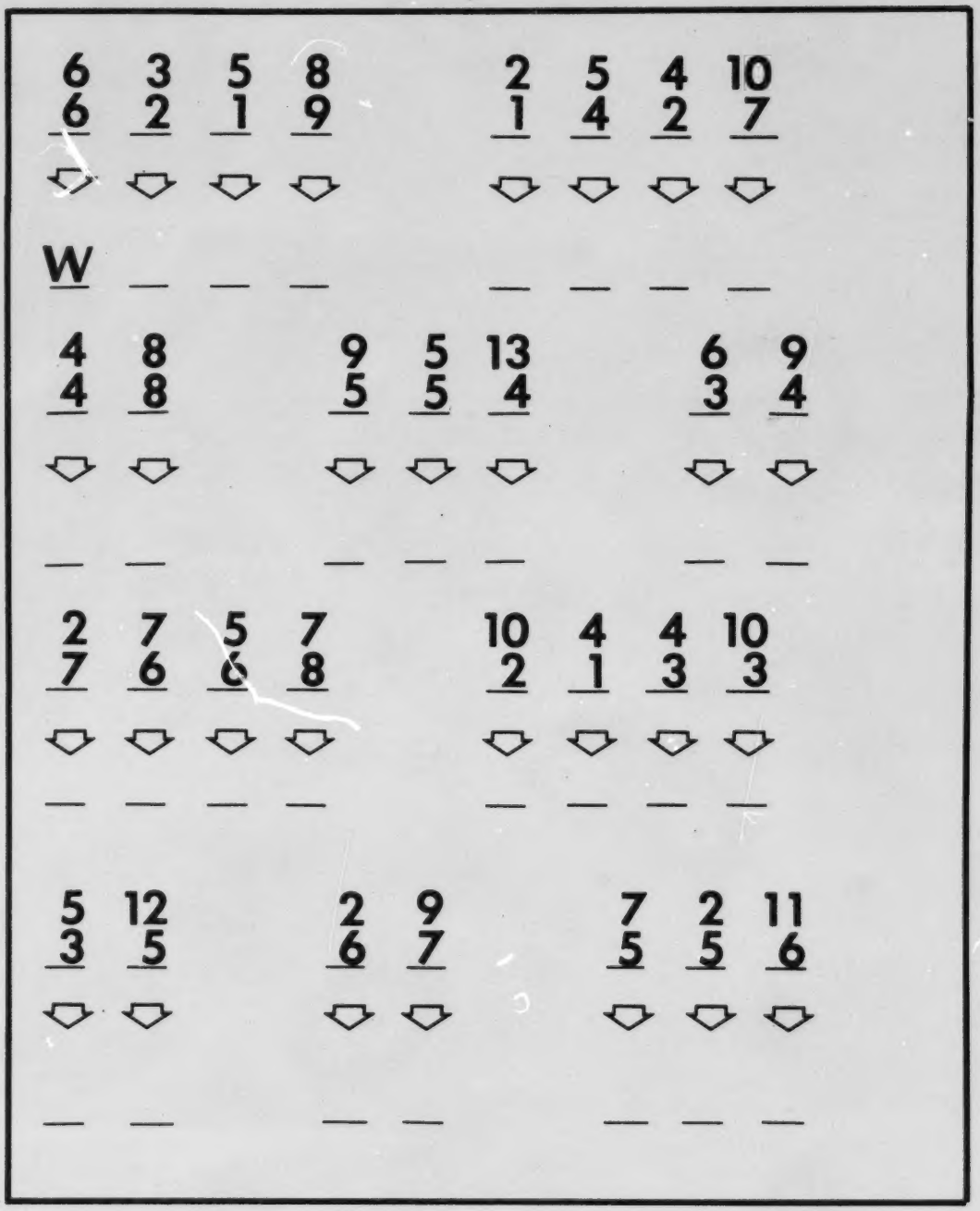
KILLING TIME

HE KICKED THE BUCKET.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

RAINY DAY RIDDLE

Use the code on the next page to help you solve the rainy day riddle.



RAINY DAY RIDDLE

Answer:

	CODE	
A = 6	I = 8	S = 16
C = 3	L = 11	T = 17
E = 7	N = 13	U = 10
F = 4	O = 9	W = 12
H = 5	P = 14	Y = 15

EASTER EGG SPELL

Mount the game board on colored poster board.

Make a spinner using poster board and a brass fastener.

Make a marker that has to do with Easter.

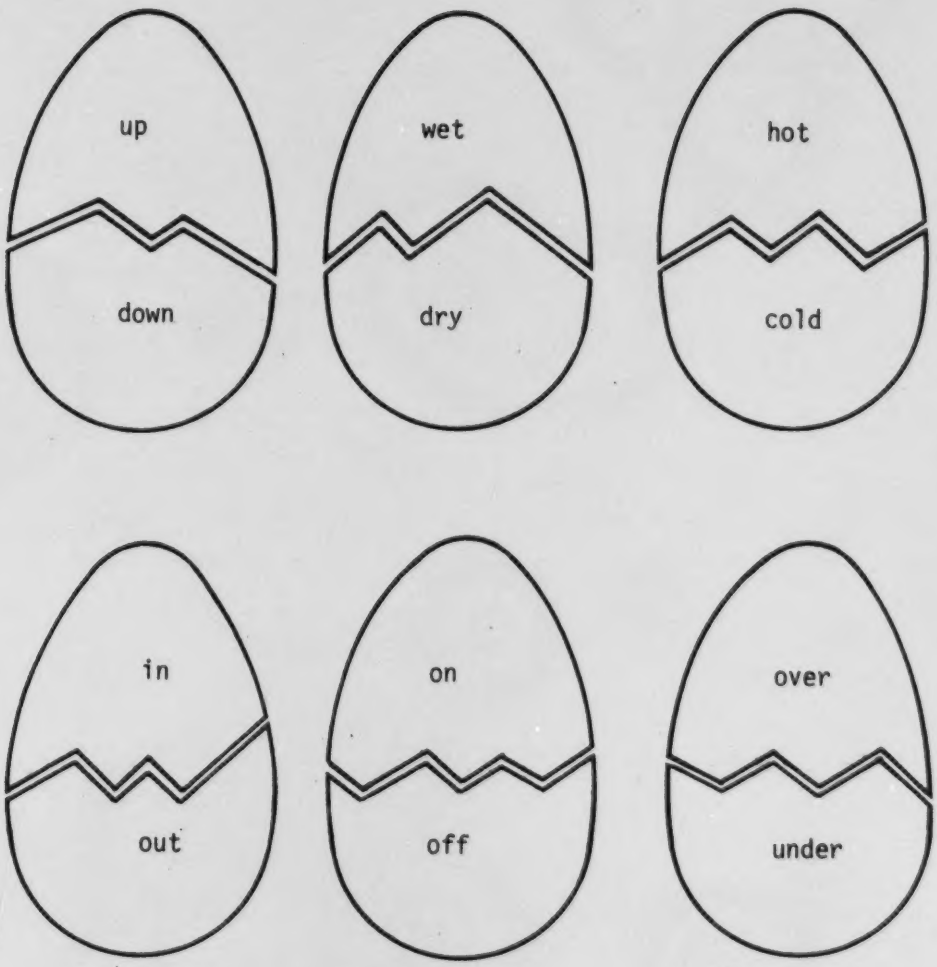
Game Rules:

1. Each player places a marker on start.
2. One player flips the spinner and moves the number of spaces shown.
3. The player must spell the word that the picture represents.
4. If the word is misspelled, the player loses one turn.
5. The game continues until one player reaches the basket of eggs and wins the game.

THE WINNER
HOP BACK 2 SPACES
HOP AHEAD 1 SPACE
MISS NEXT TURN
HOP BACK 1 SPACE
HOP AHEAD 2 SPACES
START

CRACKED EGGS

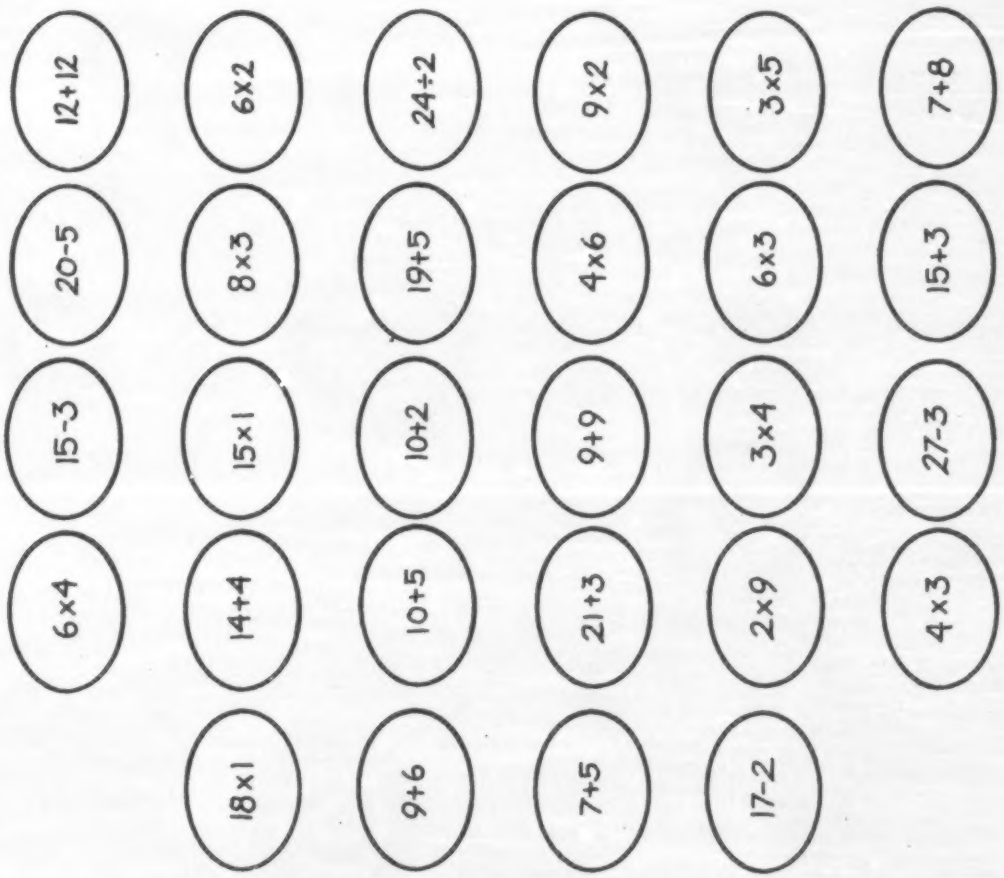
The eggs are cracked! Match the words that are antonyms and glue the pieces together on a piece of construction paper.



MAY MATH

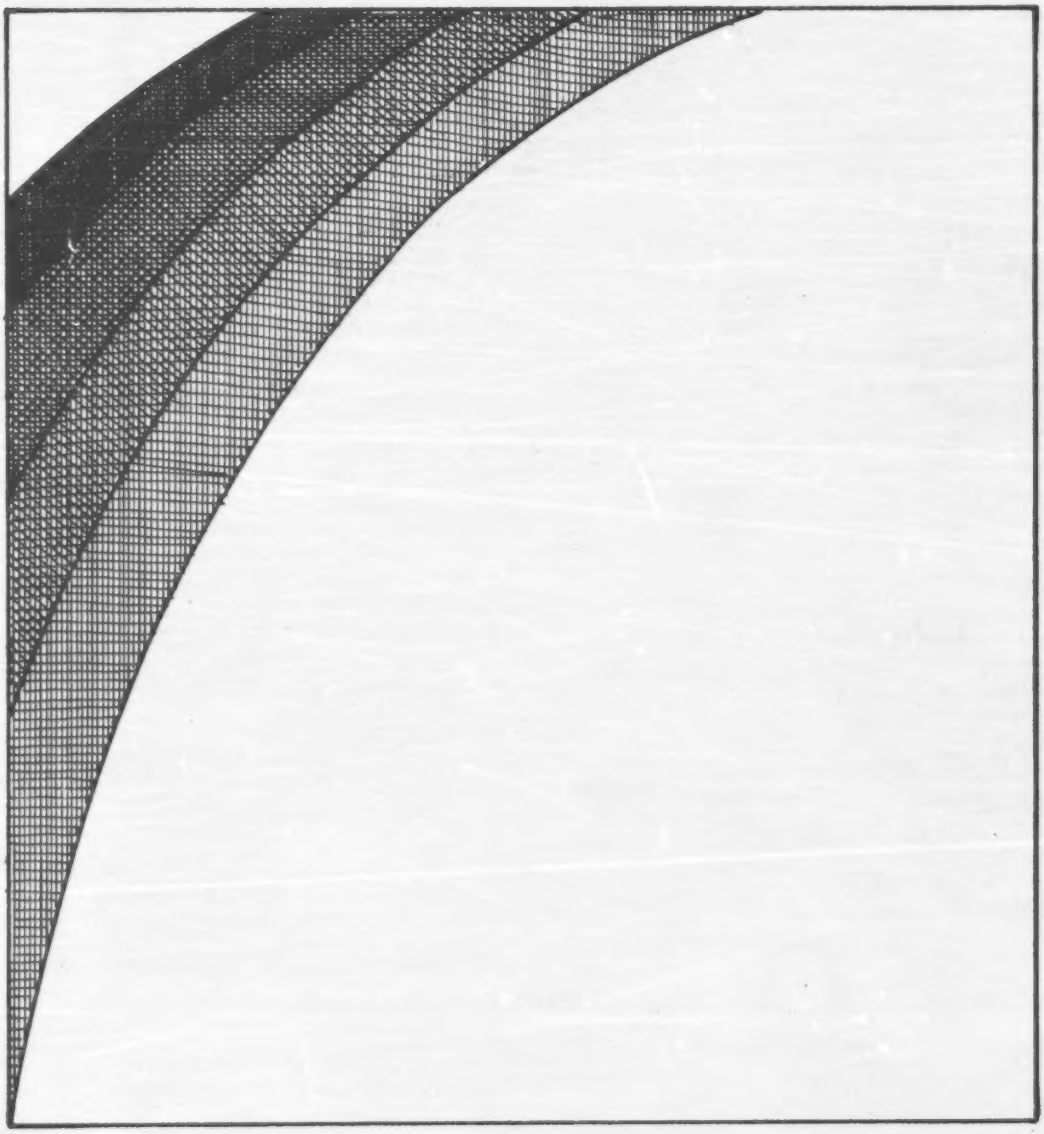
Cut out the centers of the flowers. Glue them on construction paper.

Cut out the pedals. Glue them around the center of the flower that has the correct answer on it.



OVER THE RAINBOW DAY

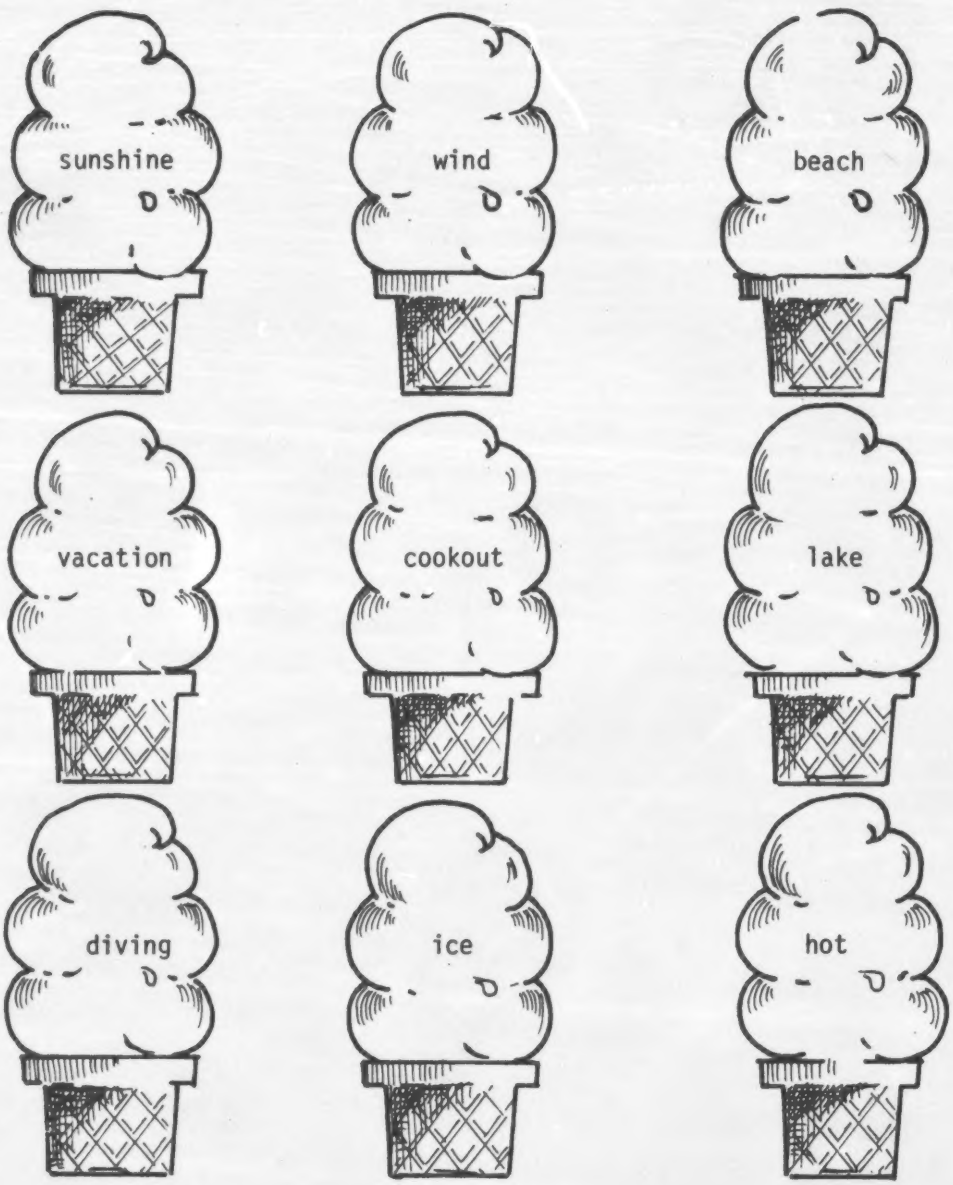
L. Frank Baum's birthday is on May 15th. He was born in 1856 and died in 1919. He wrote the Wonderful Wizard of Oz and 13 more Oz books.



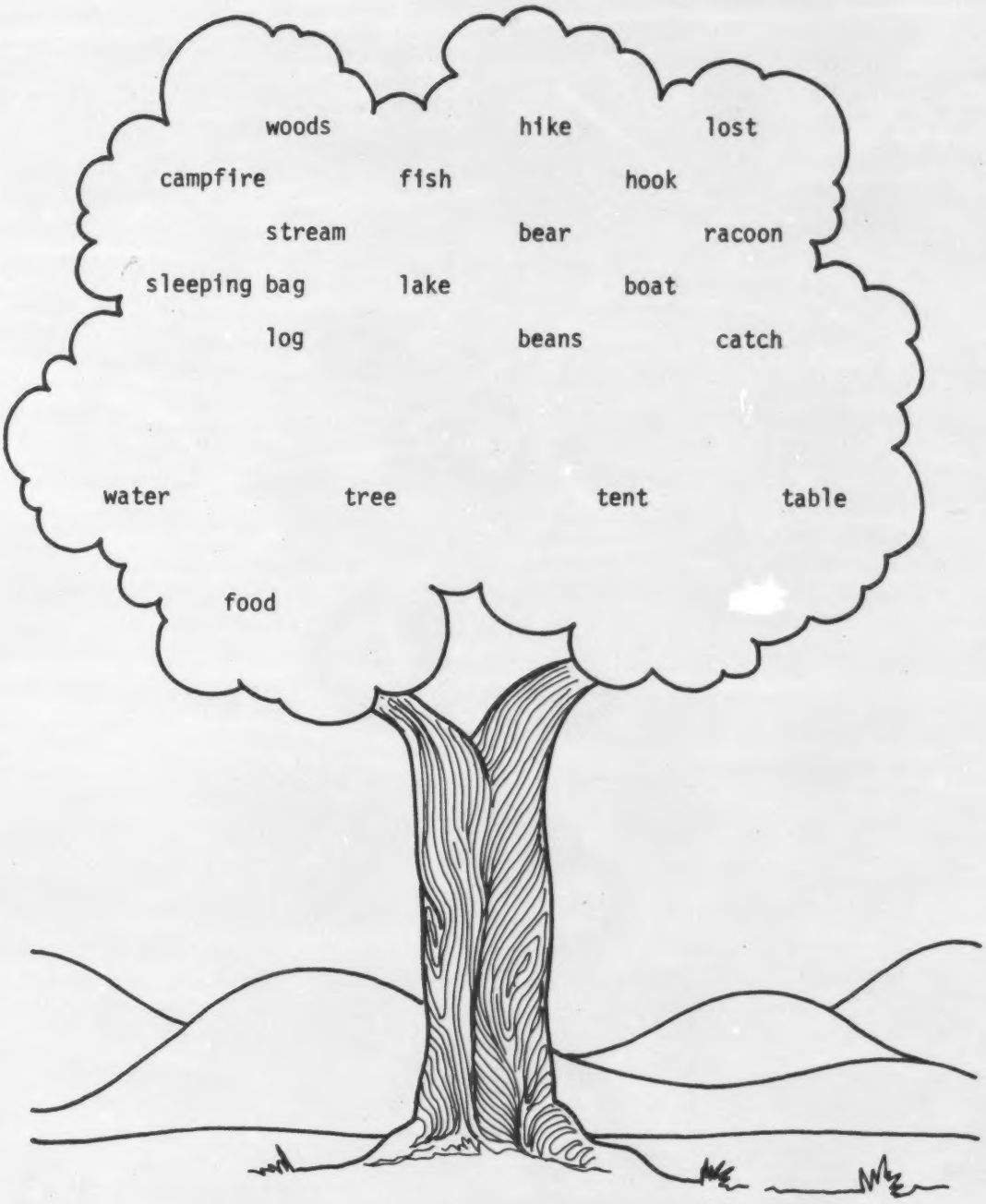
Draw a picture of what you might find over the rainbow.

DICTIONARY SCOOPS

In the dictionary, find the word that comes just before and just after the word on the middle scoop of ice cream. Write the words on the other scoops.



VACATION VENTURES I

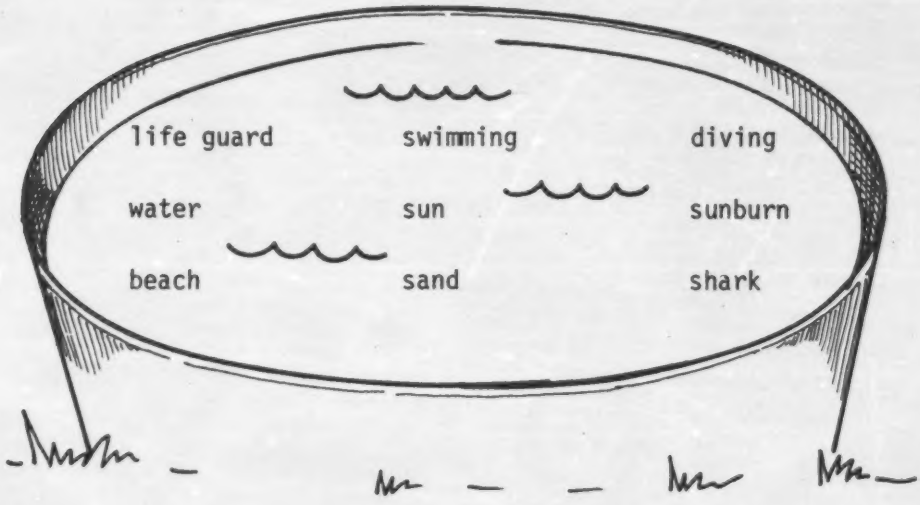


Write a vacation story and use at least 10 words listed in the tree.

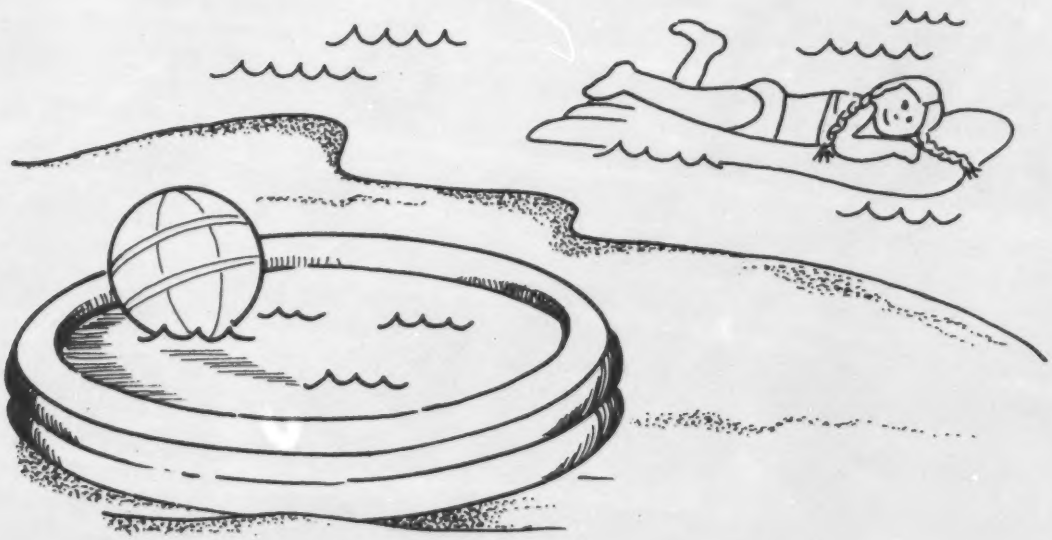
44

VACATION VENTURES II

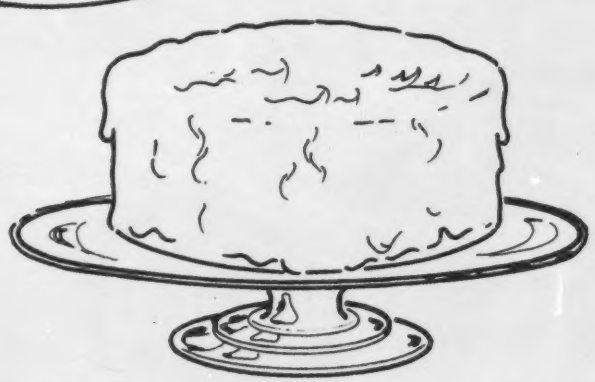
Write a vacation story and use at least 8 words listed below.



life guard	swimming	diving
water	sun	sunburn
beach	sand	shark
lotion	bucket	shovel
seaweed	vacation	ocean

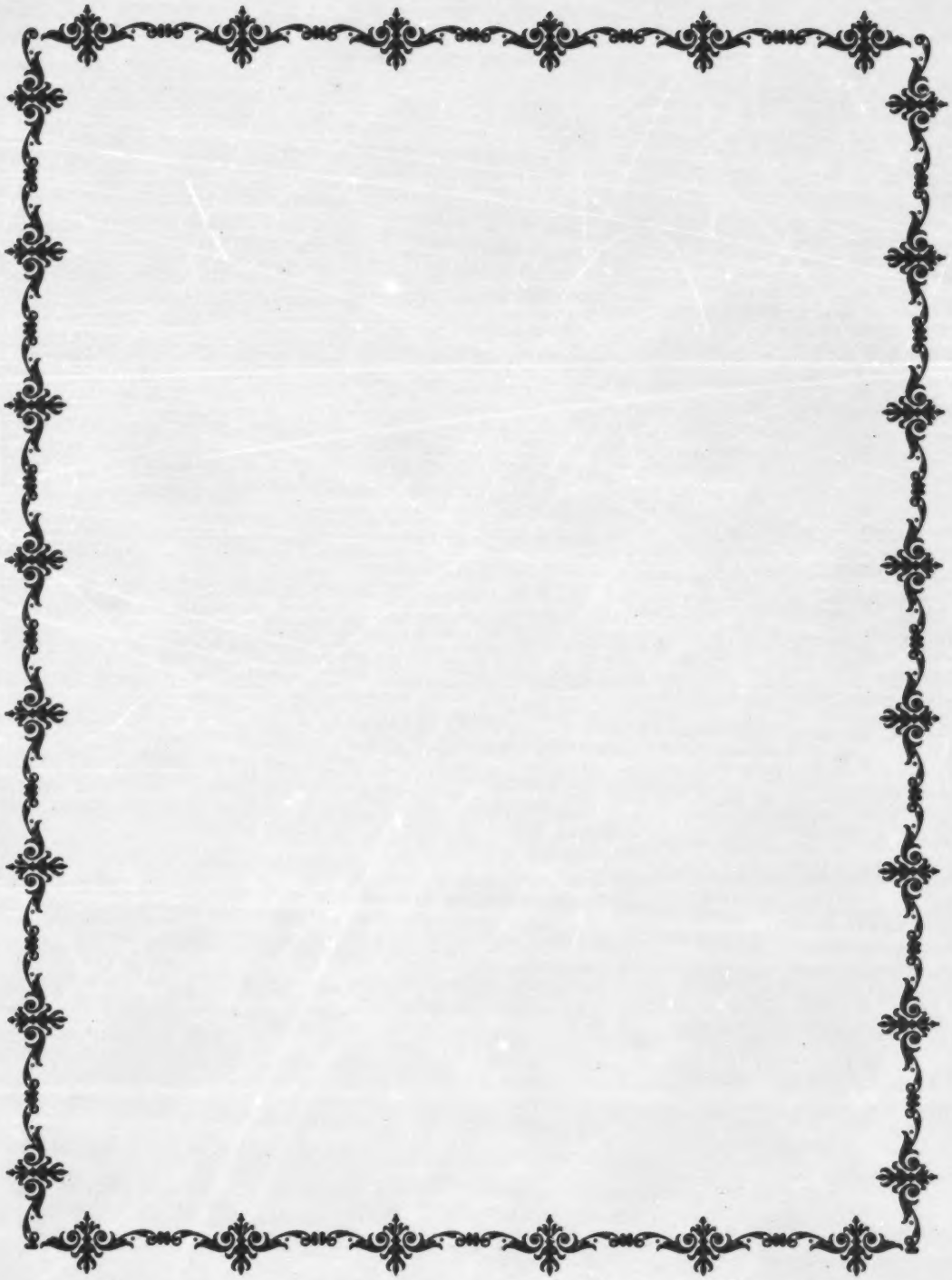


YOUR BIRTHDAY



Put candles on the cake and draw or write about a birthday wish.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY



For Mother's Day, make a card or write about the nicest times you've had together.

FATHER'S DAY

Draw a picture or write about what you plan to do for Father on his day.

CATALOG CREATIVITY

Collect seasonal catalogs. They may be used for structured activities or in a free-reading center. They provide an opportunity to introduce reference tools and to teach study skills while the students are completing their holiday shopping lists!

Activities for the following areas may be developed and placed in learning center folders:

Abbreviations

Alphabetized index

Critical thinking - Is it a good buy?
Why or why not?

Order blanks - Following Directions/Math

Reading for details - What does toy truck A weigh?
Does the train require a battery?

Reading Pictures

Reading - Phonics/Structural Analysis

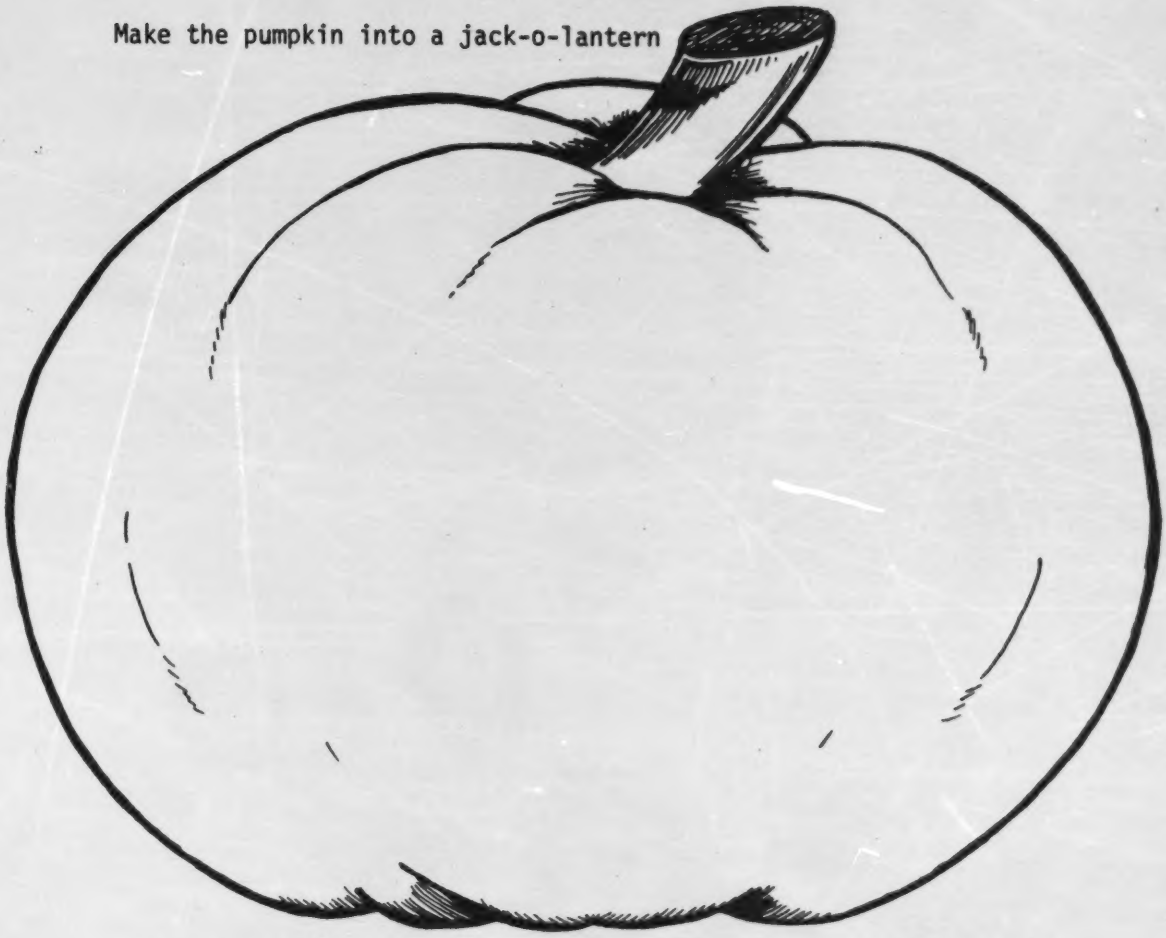
Skimming

Table of Contents

Vocabulary

SPOOKY FACES

Make the pumpkin into a jack-o-lantern



BAKED PUMPKIN SEEDS

Take the seeds out of a pumpkin and wash them in a bowl of warm water to separate them from the pulp. Dry the seeds between sheets of paper towels.

When the seeds are dry, lay them on a cooky sheet. Mix them with about a tablespoon of cooking oil and sprinkle them with a little salt.

Bake in the oven for about two hours (225^{o}), or at least until the pumpkin seeds are dry and crisp.

Take the seeds out of the oven, put them in a bowl to eat, or keep some in an air-tight jar for later.

SPOOKY SHOOPING

Let's buy some halloween words. Find out the total cost for each word listed below.

cats_____

spooks_____

halloween_____

pumpkin_____

bats_____

monster_____

spiders_____

trick or treat____

goblin_____

ghost_____

witch_____

orange_____

black_____

boo_____

creepy_____

haunted house_____

Write a 21¢ word_____

My name would cost_____

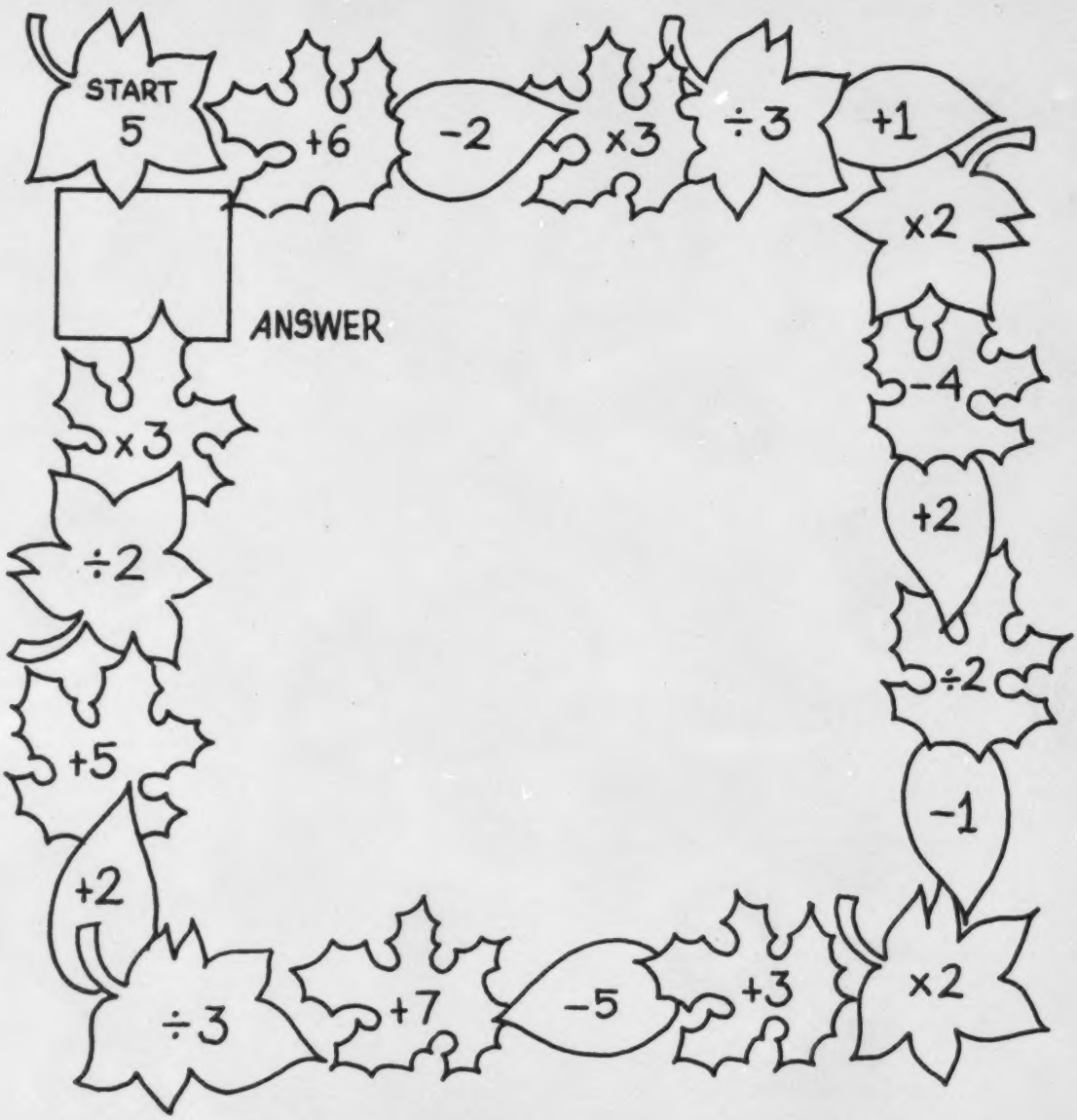
The name of my town would cost_____

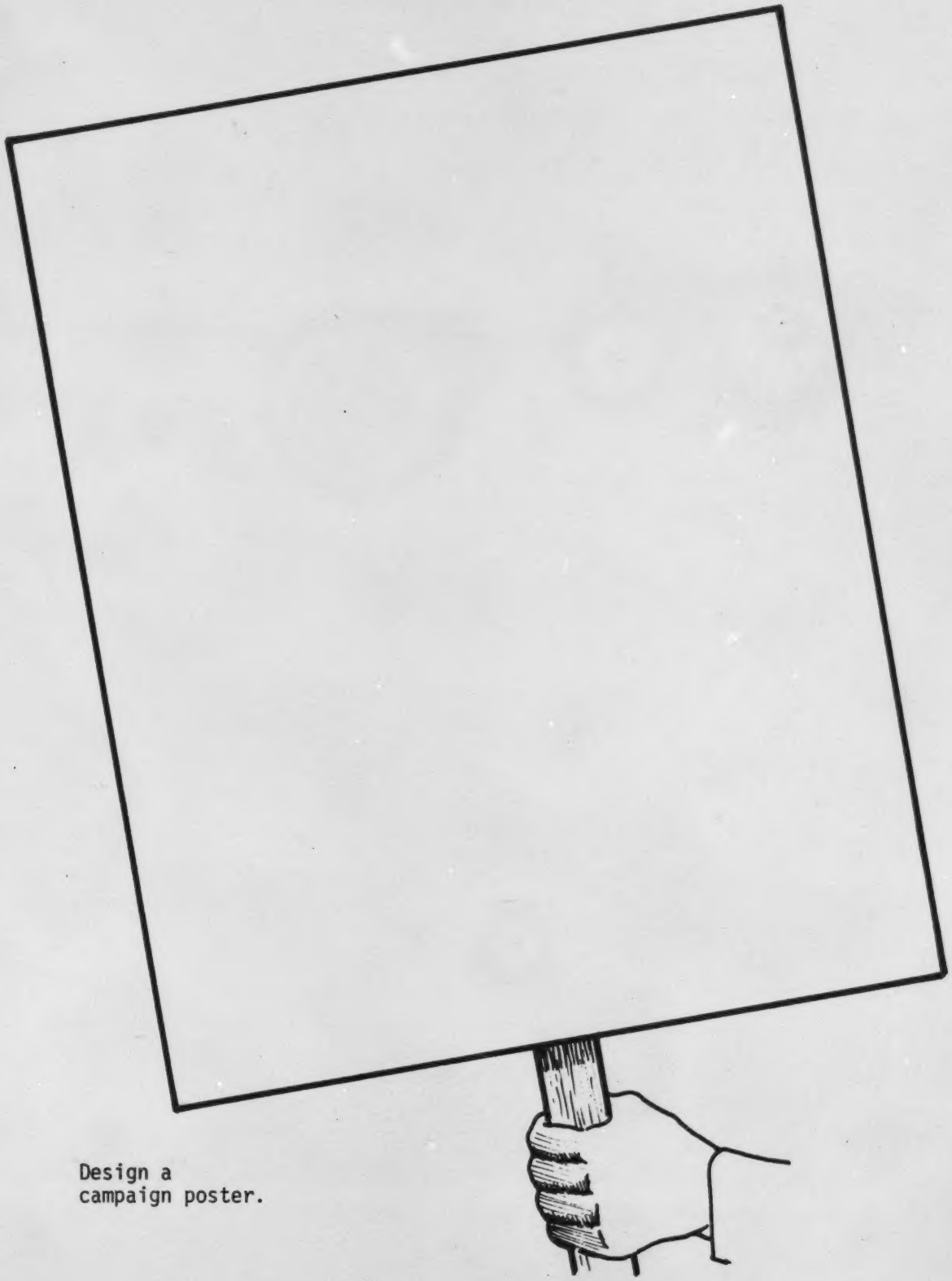
The most expensive word I can make is_____

A = 5¢	H = 3¢	N = 10¢	T = 4¢
B = 4¢	I = 6¢	O = 9¢	U = 8¢
C = 1¢	J = 1¢	P = 5¢	V = 13¢
D = 2¢	K = 2¢	Q = 7¢	W = 9¢
E = 8¢	L = 6¢	R = 7¢	X = 4¢
F = 5¢	M = 12¢	S = 11¢	Y = 2¢
G = 9¢			Z = 20¢

MYSTERY LEAVES

Follow the fall leaves to find the mystery number. Write problems in the center that equal the mystery number.

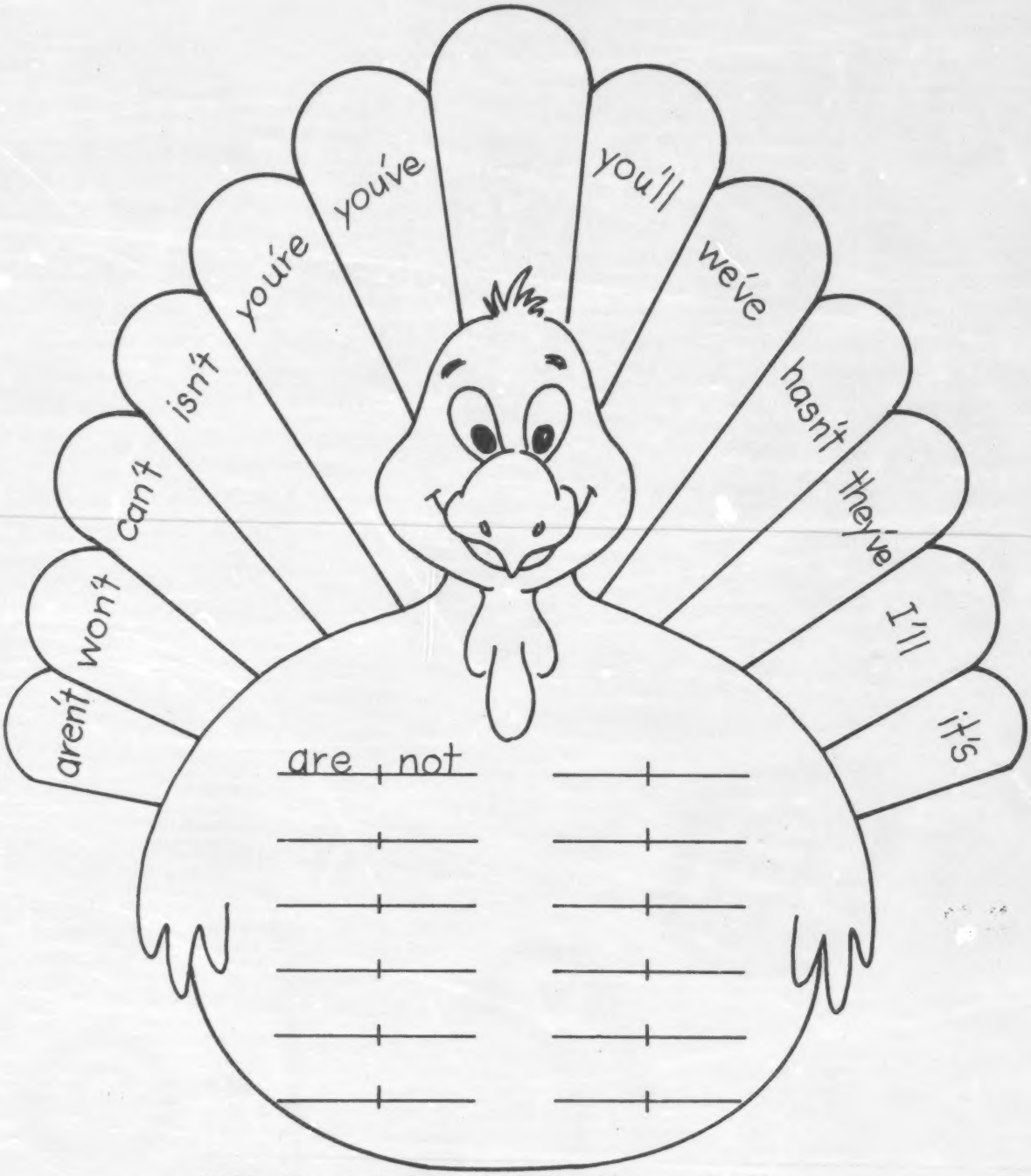




Design a
campaign poster.

Describe cooking a Thanksgiving dinner using the words in the chef's hat.

LETTER GOBBLE

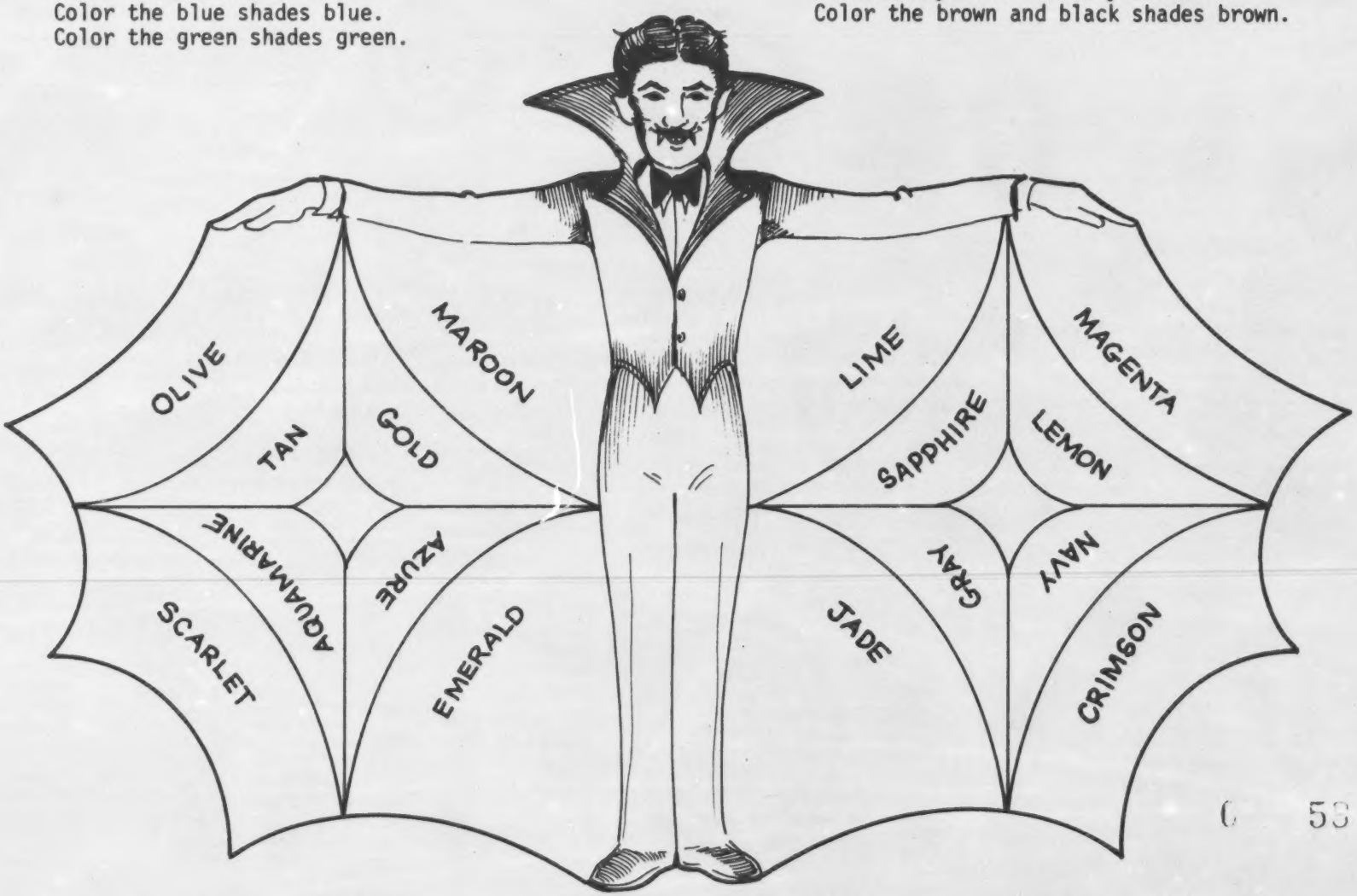


Write the words in each contraction on the lines.

DRACULA'S PALETTE

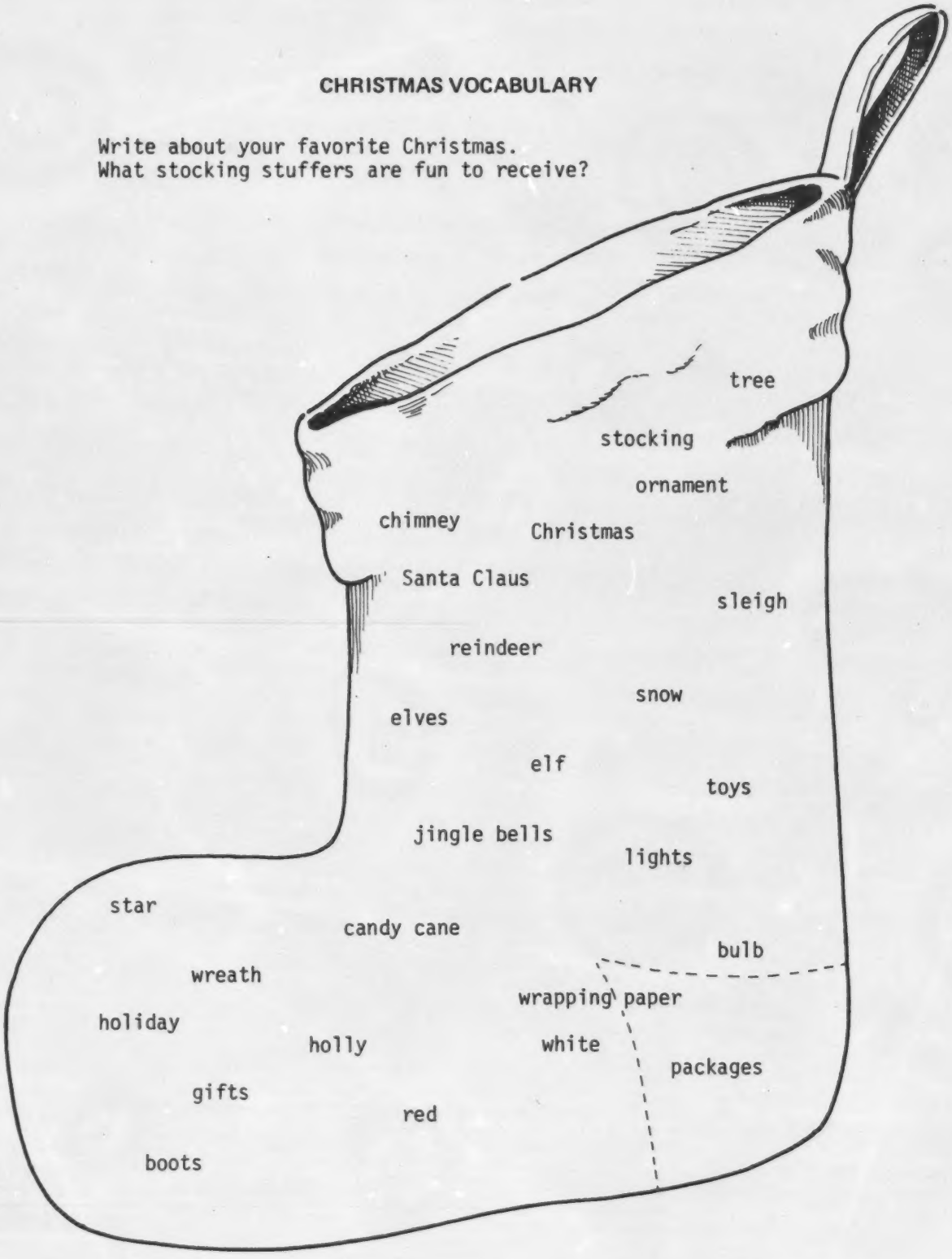
Color the red shades red.
Color the blue shades blue.
Color the green shades green.

Color the yellow shades yellow.
Color the brown and black shades brown.

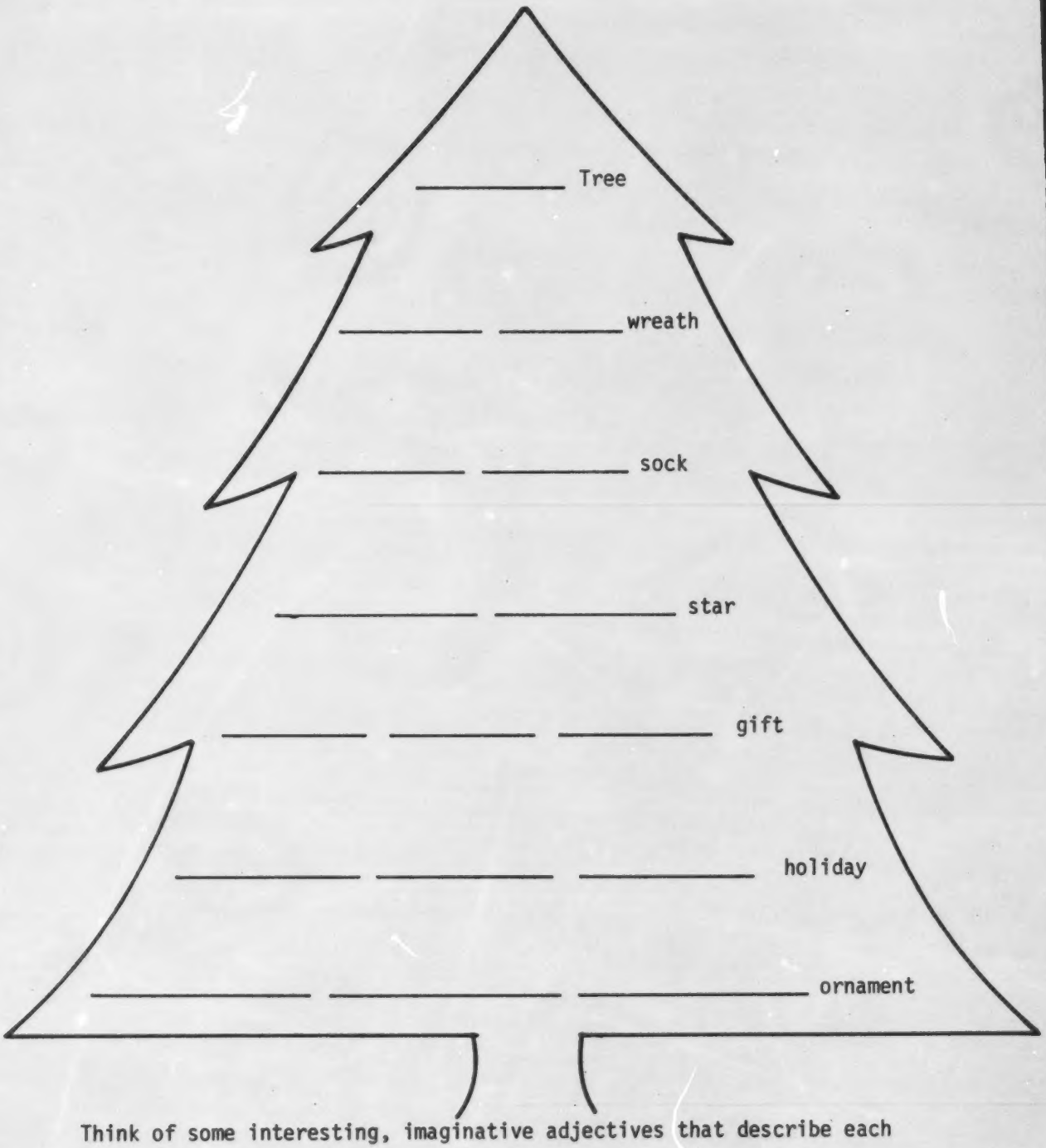


CHRISTMAS VOCABULARY

Write about your favorite Christmas.
What stocking stuffers are fun to receive?

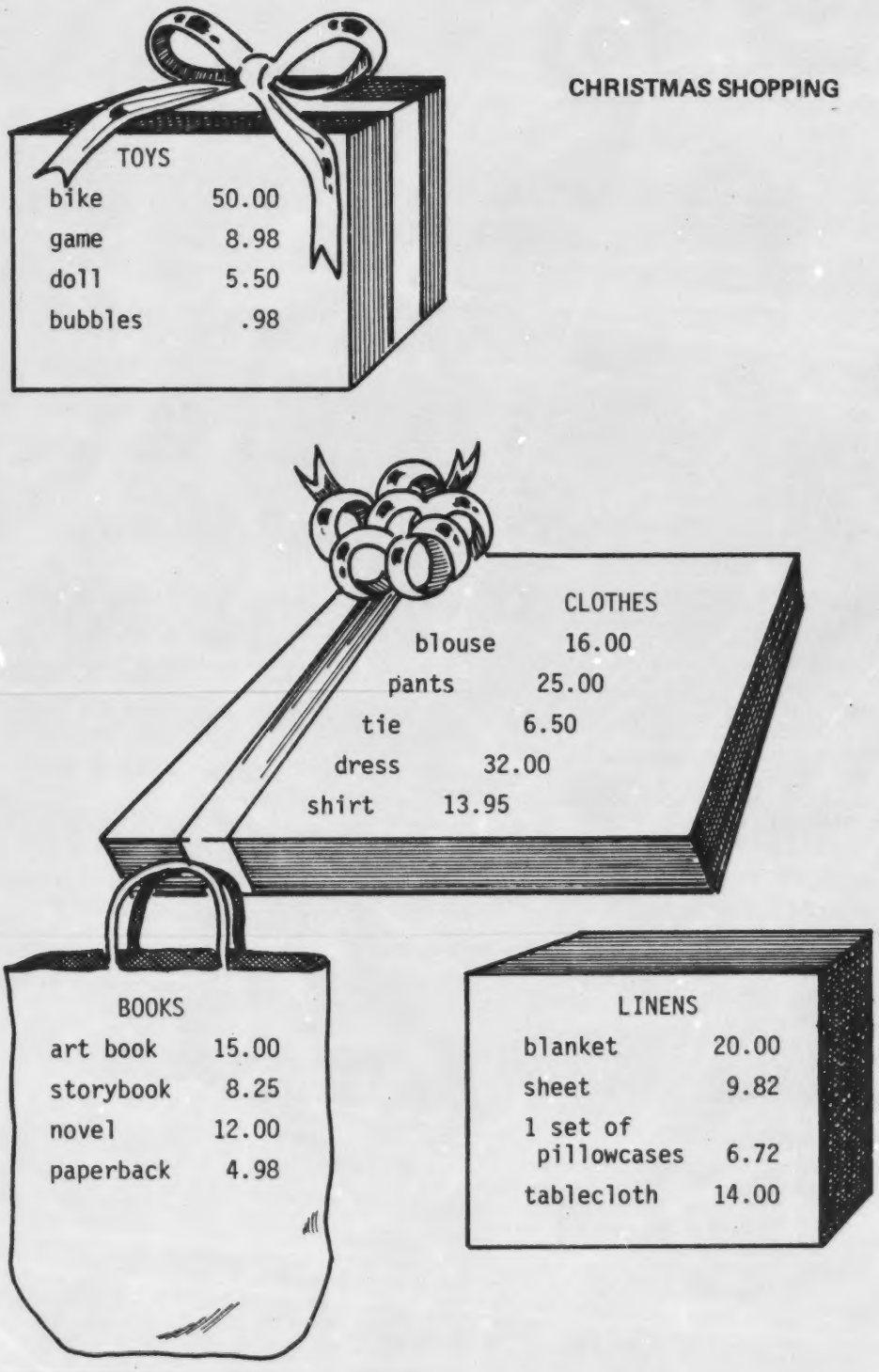


GLITTERING ADJECTIVES



Think of some interesting, imaginative adjectives that describe each noun.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING



Everyone went Christmas shopping. Use the gifts and their prices to solve these problems.

Gary bought a novel, a tie, a tablecloth, and a game for presents. How much money did he spend?

Mary had $50 to spend on gifts. She bought a storybook, two (2) jars of bubbles, a shirt, and a blanket. How much change did she receive?

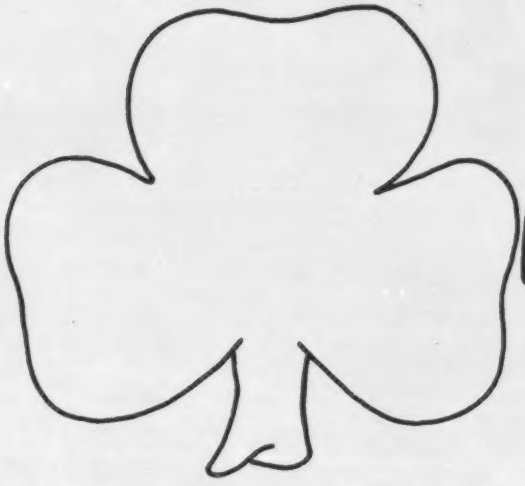
Pat and Jeanie decide to put their money together and go shopping for Christmas gifts. Pat had $35. They bought a tie, two (2) sheets, a set of pillowcases and a bike. How much money did Jeanie contribute?

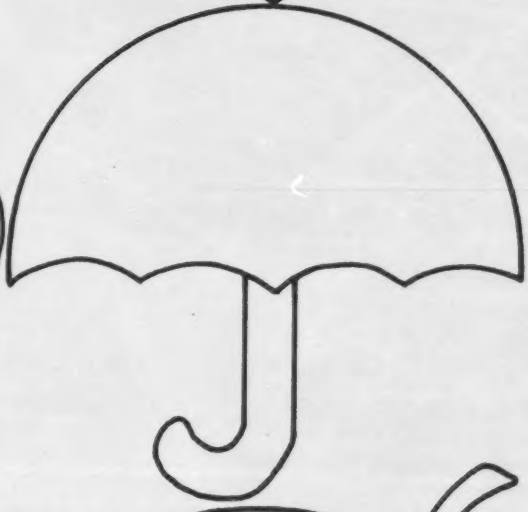
Tom wanted to buy four (4) of his friends a paperback book about baseball for a Christmas present. How much money does he need?

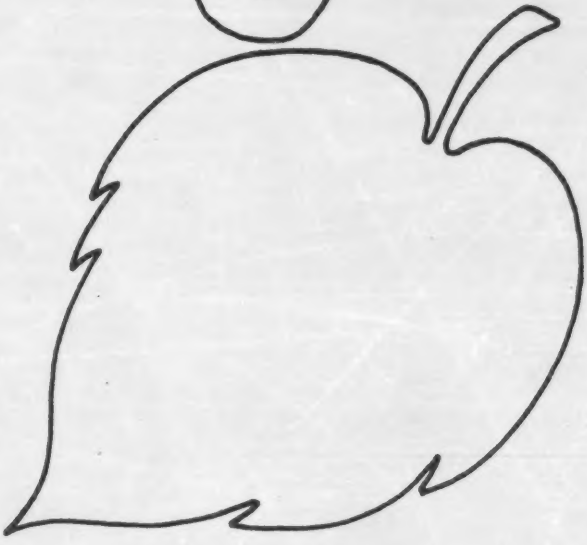
Francine has $80 to spend on presents. She wants to buy a blouse, a dress, an art book, a pair of pants and a shirt. How much more money does she need?

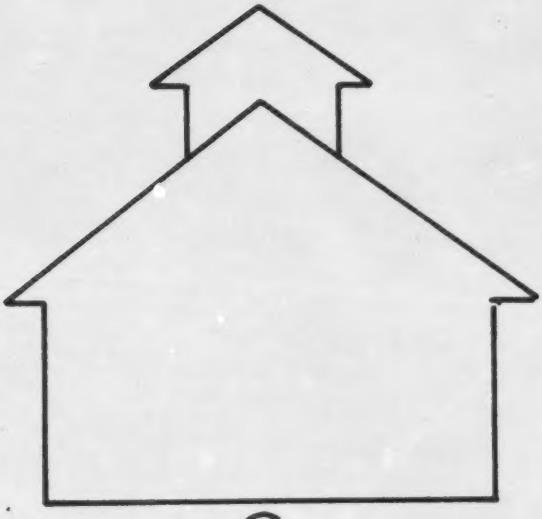
You have $150 to spend on gifts for your family. Make a chart of the gifts and the prices for each of your family members. How much did you spend? How much change do you have left?

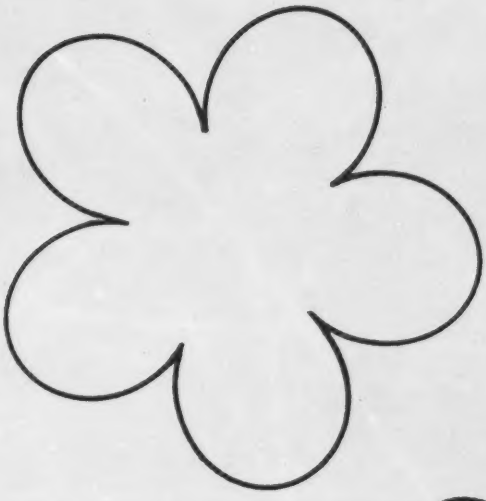
Dad has $200 to spend on Christmas gifts. He wants to spend about the same amount of money on Mom, Melanie, Mark and Renee. How much will be spent on each?

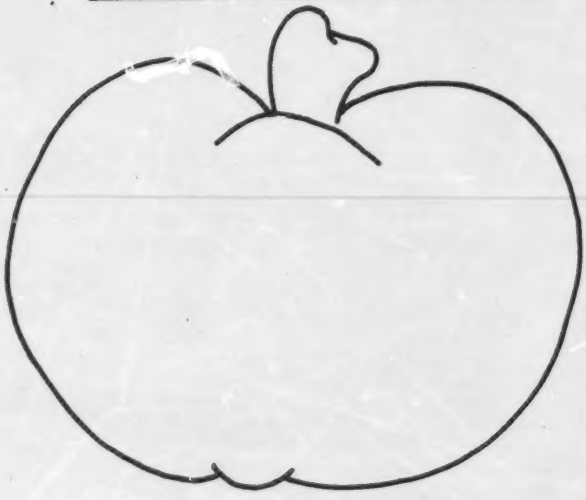


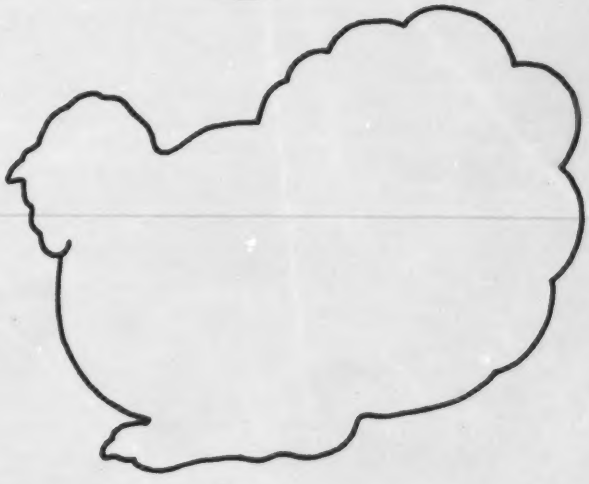












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EVALUATION

Celebrate Learning

The State Department of Education would appreciate your help. Please answer the following questions and return this page to the address listed below.

1. Circle grade level taught: K 1 2 3 4 5 6

2. Was the content of this publication generally appropriate for your classroom? Yes ____ No _____

3. Was the information:

   most helpful _____ of no help _____ of some help _____

4. Which section most complemented your particular unit of study?

5. What are some related types of publications that would be of use to you?

6. Comments/suggestions:

Name (optional):_____

Please return to:

Sharon A. Lease, Curriculum Coordinator
Curriculum Section
State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Room 3-82
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105